

HUA TELLS NIXON: POWER STRUGGLE IN PEKING

By SAUL PETT

PEKING. — Richard Nixon re-
turned the peak of his presidency
at night, half a world away
from the White House. At the
same time, China's Acting Pres-
ident publicly acknowledged for
the first time that the Peking
hierarchy is going through an-
other internal conflict.

The Chinese Army band again
saw "Home on the Range" as
honoured guests sat around the
new round table in the same
nest of the People.

The former U.S. President re-
called the Shanghai agreement he
signed four years ago that "ended
generation of confrontation and
conflict" between China and the
U.S.

He noted that while "the leaders
are changing" — he resigned and
former Chou En-lai died — both
countries cling "just as strongly,"
the common interests that
bind them between them in
72. He recalled the day "I had
a honour" of meeting with Mao
Zedong, chairman of the Chinese
Communist Party.

"We spoke very candidly and
honestly about the fact that we

came from different backgrounds
and we had many areas in which
our beliefs on philosophical, polit-
ical and economic matters were
different.

"What then brought us together?"
This was his answer: "History has
brought us together. And now his-
tory calls on our two nations to
work together to build on the
foundation we laid four years ago."

At the banquet, honoring Nixon
and the former first lady, Pat Nixon,
Acting Premier Hua Kuo-feng ac-
knowledged that "a revolutionary
mass debate is going on in such
circles as education, science and
technology. It is a continuation and
deepening of the Great Proletarian
Cultural Revolution."

"It fully demonstrates the exten-
sive democracy practiced in our
country under the system of social-
ism. We are confident that, through
this debate, Chairman Mao's prole-
tarian revolutionary line will find
its way deeper into the hearts of
the people, and our socialist mother-
land will be further consolidated."

Hua, the former Public Security
Minister, was the surprise choice
two weeks ago to succeed the late
Premier Chou En-lai. Vice-Premier

Teng Hsiao-ping had been expected
to get the job, but he has been sub-
ject to public criticism in recent
weeks as a "capitalist roadster."

Hua took another Chinese shot
at the Soviet Union.

"The danger of the outbreak of
a new war keeps growing," he
said, "as a result of the intense
rivalry for world hegemony, and
in particular that imperialism which
flameth the signboard of 'socialism,'
has reached out its grasping hands
everywhere and carried out rabid
expansion."

Nixon met with Hua for two
hours earlier in the day, and a
government spokesman said they
"exchanged views on international
questions of common interest."

"That was all that could be learned
of the meeting, which was the Act-
ing Premier's first session with a
major foreign figure. U.S. Sec-
retary of State Henry Kissinger in-
dicated on Saturday in Brazil that
the Ford Administration hopes to
get some clue to Hua's attitudes
from the Nixon session."

The opening portion, which reports
were allowed to hear, was de-
voted to chitchat about jet lag and
the weather.

"You don't know whether to go
to bed or get up," Nixon said,
speaking of the time problem.

Hua: "I'd like to express the
warm welcome of our government
to Mr. Nixon on his second visit.
I believe this is the same room in
which the first talks began four
years ago."

Nixon nodded.

Hua: "This is a memorable
room."

Nixon: "They were memorable
talks." (Nixon comeback, p. 8)

Labour Party officials don't see Zarmi's resignation final

Jerusalem Post Staff

Meir Zarmi's resignation as se-
cretary-general of the Labour party
not regarded as final by any
one in top party echelons. A La-
bour Cabinet minister with years of
organizational experience told
the Post last night that in his op-
inion the prospects of convincing
Zarmi to withdraw his resignation
are rather better than they had
been before the weekend.

The minister said it was not
a question, however, of convinc-
ing Zarmi by argument. It was a
question of remedying the malfunc-
tion in the party, as regards re-
lationship between the leaders and
the rank and file, and improv-
ing the Government, and improv-
ing the Labour's grave financial
situation.

Despite this, one of the un-
manned candidates, Housing Minister
Aharon Ofer, is still regarded as
strong possibility for secretary-
general. (In that case, he would be
elected to relinquish the Housing
Ministry, and stay on as Minister-
without-Portfolio).

A well-placed Labour source told
the Post last night that with inter-
party elections imminent and
Knesset elections to follow, this
year or next, a tough organiza-
tional man like Ofer would be urgently
needed to fill the bill. Ofer could do
more than most others to set the
party's finances in order, and he
also had unmatched experience
handling the 1969 and 1973 Knesset
election campaigns.

Yesterday, Yosef Tekouchi, pres-
ident of Ben-Gurion University in
BeerSheva and for seven years Is-
rael's ambassador to the UN, said
that if he were offered the post-
ion of Labour Party secretary-
general, he would look on it as an
expression of confidence. While pro-
mising to consider the offer soon,
Tekouchi refrained from coming out
clearly whether he would accept it
or not.

Tekouchi is in the U.S. at present.
He was interviewed on Israel Broad-
casting's "Hayom Hazeh" pro-
gramme.

In Haifa, the powerful Labour
Party branch is putting its weight
towards persuading Zarmi to with-
draw his resignation. Branch secre-
tary Uri Agami told a meeting of
the secretariat last night that Zarmi's
resignation would shake the party
and "everything must be done
to dissuade him" from quitting. He
said Zarmi should concern himself
with preparing the party elections
and convention, backed by a com-
mon effort to ensure the party's
future not only financially but as
a forum for policy-making and de-
cisions.

Describing Zarmi as "one of the
best and most wonderful men in our
movement," Education Minister
Aharon Yadin said his resignation
should cause serious heart-search-
ing in the party.

In a statement issued yesterday
through the Government Press Of-
fice, Yadin said Zarmi had given
up in the face of "mutual loss of
responsibility by party functionaries
in various spheres." To correct the
situation, Yadin proposed a num-
ber of changes, including: adding
cabinet ministers, mayors and Cen-
tral Committee members to the
Party's Leadership Bureau; holding
regular weekly meetings of the
Bureau with the participation of the
Prime Minister; and activating the
Alignment's Political Committee.

Patrol attacked from Lebanon

Jerusalem Post Reporter

RIT. — A bazooka shell was
fired on an army patrol near here
yesterday night, in the first such
incident in several weeks.

One was hurt, and the patrol
retreated. The incident occurred
the border fence, opposite the
village of Boustan, less
than one kilometre from the main
highway of southern Lebanon.

Three more Sudan
plotters executed

IRO. — Three people were exe-
cuted in Khartoum yesterday for
involvement in an abortive
attempt to overthrow the Sudanese
President Nurey el Din, September, the
Sudanese News Agency reported
from Khartoum.

A military tribunal also sentenced
three persons, mostly junior army of-
ficers, to life imprisonment and 30
years to jail terms ranging from
10 months to 10 years.

The coup leader, Col. Hassan Os-
man, was executed earlier this
month along with 15 others.

(Reuters, UPI)

Angola becomes OAU's 47th state

ADDIS ABABA. — Angola, the
47th member of the Organization
of African Unity (OAU), will take
its place for the first time in the
premier African forum when OAU
foreign ministers meet here today.

The Angolan Popular Liberation
Movement (MPLA), recognized by
40 OAU member states, is not on
the agenda, though the OAU Libera-
tion Committee may still report
on the continued presence of South
African troops in Southern Angola
and in the adjoining territory of
Namibia (South West Africa).

An OAU official said yesterday
South Africa's new law allowing
its troops to move into independent
African states is a "declaration of
war."

"The new law enacted by South
Africa giving it legal rights to move
militarily into independent Africa
south of the equator is viewed
with great concern," said Col. Has-
him Mbita, executive secretary of
OAU's Liberation Committee.

He referred to the Defence Act
Amendment bill passed by the South

African parliament in January,
under which the President can order
troops to take action anywhere in
Africa south of the equator in order
to eliminate a threat to South Afri-
can security.

In Pretoria yesterday, the Gov-
ernment said South Africa will air-
lift some 5,000 Portuguese war
refugees from camps in Southern
Angola to Windhoek in South
West Africa, from where they will
be flown home to Portugal.

The Portuguese airline TAP will
ferry the war victims from Wind-
hoek to Lisbon.

The Portuguese government yester-
day decided to recognize the
MPLA as the legitimate govern-
ment of Angola. Foreign Minister
Emesto Melo Antunes announced
the decision at the end of an emer-
gency cabinet meeting that lasted
through the night.

The military pressed for official
recognition despite the opposition
of the left-of-centre Popular Demo-
crats and minorities expressed by
the Socialist Party.

Military officials stressed that such
a move was necessary to protect the
interests of the estimated 100,000
Portuguese still living in Angola and
the 350,000 who fled to Portugal to
escape the recent fighting.

Meanwhile, guerrilla forces of

the pro-Western National Front
(UNITA) have launched hit-and-
run attacks against towns in An-
gola controlled by the MPLA, a
UNITA spokesman said in Luanda
yesterday. He said that last Fri-
day a band of UNITA guerrillas
infiltrated the central Angolan
town of Silva Porto and killed sev-
eral Cuban soldiers before escap-
ing back into the countryside.

"We have around 20,000 armed
guerrillas in Central and Southern
Angola," the spokesman said. "We
also have enough arms and ammu-
nition to keep us going for more
than two years if necessary."

(AP, UPI, Reuters)

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than two years if necessary."

(AP, UPI, Reuters)

'40,000 Cubans to settle in Angola'

JOHANNESBURG. — Shiploads of
Cuban settlers are arriving in the
Angolan capital of Luanda, it was
reported here yesterday.

The "Sunday Tribune" said fami-
lies of Cuban soldiers and tech-
nicians, who have been fighting with
the Communist-backed (MPLA), are
now arriving in Angola. Western
and South African intelligence sources
believe the Cubans will eventu-
ally build up a colony of about 40,000
in Angola, the newspaper said.

(AP)

Moscow launches biggest Congress

SCOW. — Delegations from
throughout the world swarmed in
this freshly decorated capital
city for the weekend for the biggest
Communist convention of the half-
century, the Soviet Party Congress.

About 100 foreign delegations
have been invited, along with mil-
lions of this country's leading
men, to attend the 25th Con-
gress of the Soviet Communist
Party, which begins today.

Smiling Premier Fidel Castro
Cuba arrived yesterday at the
head of a large delegation. The
arrival was shown on television,
along with other Communist net-
work from various parts of the

world. (Mikhail Gorbachev and
Leonid Brezhnev left for the Con-
gress over the weekend.)

Stalls brimming full and workers
toiled overtime to tack up the last
tattered flags and banners of so-
cialist glory. Despite the celebra-
tions and the hoopla in the official
press over the Congress, Moscow
retained its sober air. An unusual
abundance of police, even for this
uniform-happy city, has been no-
ticeable in recent days. Nearly
every major intersection is manned
by a militiaman, as the police here
are called.

Although the congresses were
forums for hot debate in Lenin's
day, they have since become largely

approval sessions for the course
Soviet leaders have taken over the
past five years, as well as official
stamps for programs already for-
mulated in the Kremlin's inner sanc-
tums.

The 25th Congress is not likely
to be an exception.

A huge portrait of Party leader
Leonid Brezhnev, the 69-year-old
General Secretary who has topped
the collective leadership for the past
12 years, dominates the museum
near the Kremlin. Portraits of
Marx, Engels and Lenin hang every-
where. Frames to hold the portraits
of other top Soviet officials remain
empty, maintaining the state-inspired
line that no one will really know
who the leaders will be until after
the "elections" at the end of the
Congress in early March.

The fact that Brezhnev's portrait
hangs alone attests as well as any
proclamation that he remains the
boss. Western observers say if any
changes take place in the leader-
ship at the Congress, they are ex-
pected to be minor ones.

Meanwhile, the state-controlled
press has launched its usual massive
campaign to fan the flames of en-
thusiasm for the Congress.

"Pravda" reported yesterday that
an Estonian milkmaid has fulfilled
her plan ahead of time in honor of
the Congress. And so has a brigade
of coal workers in the Donbass re-
gion. "The stream of joyful reports
continues to grow," gushed the Com-
munist party newspaper.

(AP)

24 U.S. jets to Morocco

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. has
agreed to sell a squadron of F-5E
fighter planes to Morocco, U.S.
officials said yesterday. They said
the first 24 planes, which will cost
about \$150m, will be delivered in
about 18 months.

The F-5E, which is manufactured

by Northrop and known as the "In-
ternational Fighter," is a successor
to the F-5A "Freedom Fighter,"
which was sold in large numbers
around the world.

"The New York Times," quoting
administration and congressional
sources, said the decision to go
ahead with the sale was taken be-
cause failure to do so would have
indicated decreased American sup-
port for King Hassan, who is in-
volved in a bitter dispute with Al-
geria, a major recipient of Soviet
arms, and an Algerian-backed in-
dependence movement over the
Western Sahara.

(Reuters)

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THE GROUP WILL ALSO INCLUDE
TOP MATHEMATICIAN PROF. PLOCEVSKY
SHAPIRO.

(Leader — Page 4, studies — Page 5)

Prof. Lunz due

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL. AVIV. — One of the most
renowned Russian elite activists,
Prof. Alexander Lunz, is expected
to arrive in Israel from Vienna
tonight, among other Soviet im-
migrants. The group will also include
top mathematician Prof. Plocevsky
Shapiro.

(Leader — Page 4, studies — Page 5)

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Cabinet: Next step is end-of-belligerency

'It's the same as peace,' say jurists

By DAVID LANDAU and ASHER WALLFISH

The Cabinet yesterday gave
its blessing to a new American
initiative designed to achieve end-
of-belligerency pacts between Is-
rael and the Arab states. But Is-
rael will carefully avoid offering
specific territorial concessions
until it knows clearly what the
Arabs — and the Americans —
understand by end-of-belligerency,
and until it knows whether the
Arabs are seriously interested in
such a pact.

A dual process of "clarification"
will now therefore begin — between
Israel and the U.S., and between
the U.S. and Israel's three Arab
neighbours.

The American initiative, first
brought to Prime Minister Rabin
during his recent Washington visit,
is seen as a parallel or an alter-
native to the reconvening of the
Geneva conference. The U.S. and Is-

rael have both said they favour
Geneva, but privately officials in
both countries see little hope of its
reconvening at this time — be-
cause of Syrian-Soviet insistence
that the PLO participate.

Despite this bleak outlook, the
UN Secretary-General Kurt Wald-
heim has sent his political aide
Roberto Guyer to discuss Geneva
with the Mideast parties, and he
will be flying in from Egypt to-
night. He will breakfast with For-
eign Minister Allon tomorrow, and
hold talks with other officials dur-
ing the day.

The end-of-belligerency initiative
stems from Dr. Kissinger's conclu-
sion that the step-by-step process
is no longer useful, while full-
fledged peace is not a practical
proposition.

Cabinet sources stressed last night
that in Israel's view end-of-bel-
ligerency is tantamount to "de facto
peace." They cited a legal opinion

drafted a year ago by then-Attor-
ney-General Meir Shamgar to this
effect (see separate story Col. 5).
While it was not a substitute for
"positive peace" (involving normal-
ization of relations), it was still a
worthwhile target to aim at, they
explained.

They appeared to envisage end-of-
belligerency pacts as very far-reach-
ing interim agreements, which would
perhaps leave some territory in Is-
rael's hands still to be traded in
return for eventual "positive peace."

Mindful of last year's tactical
error — when Rabin offered the oil
and the passes for end-of-bel-
ligerency, and ended up by ceding them
for a good deal less — the Cabinet
steered clear of any consideration
of a *quid pro quo* for end-of-bel-
ligerency. That would come, min-
isters explained, only after end-of-
belligerency had been accepted by
the parties as the negotiating aim.

Opinion by Shamgar basis for decision

By DAVID LANDAU

Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Countries are either at war or
at peace: there is no in-between
state — this is the view of most
international jurists today. Thus the
termination of a state of war (end-
of-belligerency) in effect ushers in
a state of peace.

America's end-of-belligerency initia-
tive.

Some legal authorities, Shamgar
wrote, posit an in-between state
("status mixtus"), but the main
body of legal opinion does not ac-
cept this.

Of course the state of peace
ushered in by the end-of-belligerency
is very much a "passive" concept:
absence of state of war. It re-
mains to be filled with "active" con-
tent such as diplomatic ties,
trade links, cultural exchange, etc.
— and only then can fully normal
relations be said to exist.

But the lack of such ties and
contacts does not detract from the
basic state of peace. Their inclusion
is not mandatory in an end-of-bel-
ligerency (or peace) agreement.
They are the political content of
relations between states, which can
be legally at peace without them
— just as Israel and Russia are at
peace today without them.

Thus for example, if Israel and
Egypt signed an end-of-belligerency
agreement, with Israel withdrawing
to the El-Arish Ras Muhammad
line, a state of peace would come
into existence between them.

Subsequently (Mr. Shamgar says this
would be only in the "next genera-
tion") they might evolve the "active"
ingredients of peace — diplomatic,
trade and other ties — which in
themselves are considered a prac-
tical bulwark against war. In that
atmosphere of enhanced mutual se-
curity Israel might be ready to con-
template further concessions of ter-
ritory.

This is apparently the scenario
which the Cabinet ministers envi-
saged yesterday when they gave
Kissinger the go-ahead to moot end-
of-belligerency pacts with the Arab
states.

Shamgar's opinion was on the
Cabinet table again yesterday, and
it served as the basis of the com-
plex legal-political debate which
ended in the decision to endorse



Egyptian truck in left foreground raises dust as it winds its way up road to the Egyptian early warning station near Gidi pass yesterday. (AP radiophoto)

Stricter control over spending by ministries

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Cabinet yesterday decided to
restrain ministries from spending
large portions of their approved
budgets in the first half of the fiscal
year, by doing out less than half
the approved sums to them.

A similar measure last year re-
stricted the ministries to spending
no more than 1/12 of the approved
budget in each of the first three
months, by instructing the Ac-
countant-General to put no more
than that at their disposal. This
year, the Accountant-General will
be instructed to place only 1/15
of the approved year's budget at
the disposal of each ministry, for
each of the first three months. For
the next three months, each min-
istry will get 1/12 of the year's
budget.

The Finance Minister will report to
the Cabinet at the start of each
quarter — on August 1, November 1
and January 1 — on the implemen-
tation of the budget and the eco-
nomic developments. The Cabinet
will discuss the state of the eco-
nomy on these dates.

Another Cabinet decision bans
from its agenda, for the coming
year, proposals which involve ex-
penditures not contained in the bud-
get — unless the Treasury's Budget
Director attaches to such proposals
an explanation of the source of
financing.

Free Centre blast

The Free Centre last night scored
the Government's decision, saying
it runs counter to the understand-
ing between Israel and the U.S.
made in connection with the Sinai
agreement, and contradicts explicit
Government statements about the
Syrian front.

In agreeing to large-scale with-
drawals without peace, the Likud-
affiliated party said, the Govern-
ment is likely to bring Israel back
to the lines of June 4, 1967 without
achieving a political solution — thus
creating a situation that will bring
upon Israel a cruel war under the
most difficult conditions, and quite
soon.

The party called on all Israelis
regardless of party, to oppose the
decision. Free Centre Knesset Mem-
ber Shmuel Tamir called for an ur-
gent Knesset debate on the matter.

Seven die in grain elevator blast

HOUSTON. — A grain elevator blew
apart here yesterday, killing at
least seven persons and injuring
scores of others. An unknown num-
ber of persons were trapped in the
facility, and the fire was reported
burning out of control.

A spokesman said the explosion,
which could be heard in most parts
of the city, blew off roofs and tore
windows in the city's south side.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy, possible local rain.

Weather synopsis: A trough from the Red Sea, together with an upper low, cause instability in our region.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Min-Max
Jerusalem	55	4-18	4-18
Golan	45	1-15	1-15
Nabatyia	50	1-15	1-15
Safed	50	1-15	1-15
Haifa Port	50	1-15	1-15
Tiberias	45	1-15	1-15
Nazareth	45	1-15	1-15
Afula	45	1-15	1-15
Shimon	45	1-15	1-15
Tel Aviv	55	9-17	9-17
Eilat Airport	55	9-17	9-17
Jericho	55	9-17	9-17
Qusa	55	9-17	9-17
Beer Sheva	55	9-17	9-17
Eilat	55	9-17	9-17
Tiran Straits	55	9-17	9-17

Social and Personal

The Board of Governors of the American Jewish Committee gave a farewell reception Saturday for Israeli friends at the Jerusalem Hilton. Among the guests were Supreme Court President Shimon Agranat, Ministers Moshe Kol and Gideon Hausner and U.S. Ambassador Malcolm Toon and Mrs. Toon.

Gedalia Doron, director of Kitan Dimona, has been appointed general adviser to the chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, Yosef Almog.

IS veterans blinded during the War of Independence met in Haifa yesterday to celebrate the publication of the book "To See in the Dark," the autobiography of Ya'acov Doron.

The Public Relations Association branch in Haifa has elected Yosef Friedlander, Mordechai Berman, Yair Bar-Mashiah and Terah Tal to its executive.

The Aharon Katzir-Paula Ben-Gurion Lodge of B'nai Brith in Tel Aviv last week installed Judith Noam as president. Vice-presidents are Mel Klarfeld, Ray Katz and Sigmond Schlesinger. Secretaries: E. Ginsberg and S. Peyser. Treasurer: Leon Katz; and Mentor, Isaac Zimman.

Aharon Langerman, newly appointed director-general of the Ministry of Social Welfare, will talk on "Social Problems of Israeli Society" at the Ladies' Night to be held by the Jerusalem West Rotary Club, at 5 o'clock tonight, King David Hotel.

Prof. Moshe Maoz, head of the Institute for Asian and African Studies at the Hebrew University, will speak on "The PLO and their Covenant," at the Jerusalem Lions Club meeting at the Hilton Hotel, 8.30 tonight.

Ruth Tekoa will speak in English, on "Seven Years in New York" at Wizo House, 38 Sderot David Hamelech, Tel Aviv, on Wednesday, February 25, at 4 p.m. Judith Shechterman will be in the chair. The talk is being held under the auspices of the Rebecca Steiff English-speaking Wizo group. Tickets, (IL10 each, including refreshments) will be available at the door.

Dr. Gershon Winer and Abraham Ben-Yacov, secretary of the Council for Higher Education, will lecture in English on "What is Wrong with University Education in Israel?" at eight o'clock tonight at the meeting of the Hebrew University Forum, United Synagogue, 2 Rehov Agron, Jerusalem.

ARRIVALS

Zalman Abraham, MK (Likud), from the Brussels Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Mordechai Bar-On, head of the Jewish Agency Youth and Hebrew Education, from a tour of Europe to organize summer visits of young people here (by El Al).

DEPARTURES

Danish Education Minister Ritt Ejerbaard, after a week-long visit here as a guest of the Education Minister.

Prof. Michael Seis, president of the Weizmann Institute of Science, for a joint symposium of the institute and the Pasteur Institute, in Paris.

Sculptor and painter Dany Karavan, for Venice, to prepare for representing Israel at the Biennale in June.

Rabbi ISSER YEHUDA UNTERMAN

will take place on the day of the "shloshim," Wednesday, February 25, at 3.30 p.m., at the Mount of Olives cemetery.

A bus will leave at 3.00 p.m. from the Chief Rabbi's residence, 25 Rehov Keren Hayesod, Jerusalem.

The Family

The "Alliance Israelite Universelle" Delegation in Israel. The "Friends of Alliance Israelite Universelle" Association. The Keren Institute for Humanistic Jewish Education, Jerusalem. Directors, Teachers, Staff and Pupils of the Alliance Israelite Universelle School. Alliance Israelite Universelle Primary School, Jerusalem. Alliance Israelite Universelle School for the Deaf, Jerusalem. Alliance Israelite Universelle Municipal Secondary School, Ramat Aviv. Alliance Israelite Universelle Secondary School, Haifa.

Prof. RENE CASSIN

President of Alliance Israelite Universelle. Nobel Prize winner. Distinguished defender of human rights.

Railways recoup \$1.9m. for delayed railcars

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA — Fiat of Italy has agreed to refund Israel Railways nearly \$2m. for 10 railcars it sold to Israel in 1973 but failed to deliver because of Fiat factory delays. Railways general manager Zvi Tsafirri announced yesterday.

The repayment includes the \$1.3m. advance, plus 48 per cent to cover interest; and all expenses incurred by the Railways, including the cost of training operators in Italy.

By agreement with the Ministries of Transport and Finance, the \$1.9m. will be earmarked for making other improvements in the Railways' passenger services. The improvements will include changing

the undercarriages of passenger cars to increase comfort. The Railway management had decided after the long delay that the present economic conditions no longer made it worthwhile to invest the tens of millions of pounds that would have been needed to absorb the Fiat airconditioned railcars into its system, engage extra manpower, put up special garages and spare-parts stores and rebuild the lines.

Tsafirri also conceded that their 500-horse-power engines would not have been fully utilized on the Israeli passenger lines. He had therefore gone to Italy to explore the possibility of reaching a mutual agreement to cancel the contract. He said the Railways were pleased with the agreement.

Builders warn of serious recession

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV — Building contractors and trade unionists yesterday warned that a slump in construction would lead to a serious recession, and said that expiration of the current freeze on building of big homes and public buildings will not be enough to prevent the slump.

"Hardly four million square metres will be built in 1978," Solei Boneh director-general Shmuel Rothman told the opening session of the Construction Workers Union convention at Beit Hahayal here. This threatens "unemployment in the construction sector this year and severe shocks in 1977," the head of the Histadrut building firm said.

The slump is expected to affect many of the 25,000 building workers from the administered territories this year, Mordechai Amster, the union's secretary, told *The Jerusalem Post*. Next year some of the 60,000 Israeli building workers will be hurt, he added.

This could precipitate a dangerous recession, he said, because construction is a major sector of the economy. Seconding the warning, Histadrut secretary-general Yeruham Meshel said there can be no limited recession: "In Israel it is either day or night. There is no twilight."

(There has been a steady decline in construction in the past few years. Some 8.2 million sq metres were started in 1972, but only 5

million in starts were reported in 1973.)

David Stern, president of the Builders and Contractors Association, told the 500 delegates that a large part of the country's construction equipment is standing idle. Plants manufacturing prefabricated structures are working at 40 per cent of their capacity at best, he added.

The slump in construction is not peculiar to Israel: In some countries 10-20 per cent of the building workers are unemployed. John Lofblad, secretary-general of the International Federation of Building and Woodworkers told the convention. The figures would have been higher if many workers had not found jobs in other sectors, he said.

Speaking after the session, Amster demanded that the date for beginning work on new projects be advanced, and that private companies be allowed to build larger flats and office buildings.

He also wanted the Histadrut and not the Ministry of Labour to handle the social benefits due to workers from the administered territories. Most of these social benefits, which equal 50 per cent of the workers' pay, should be paid by the employers, but he alleged ministry officials don't always collect them — because their cost is lower under current Israeli workers and companies who follow the regulations. Attending the convention are delegations from Sweden, West Germany, Austria and Italy.

CPAs seek bigger role

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV — The country's certified public accountants want the law governing them changed to give them greater power, to report financial misdeeds, the leaders of the Israel Institute of Certified Public Accountants said here yesterday.

The institute's outgoing president, Nahum Friedkes, and incoming president Israel Strauss told reporters a "brains trust" has already been formed to propose this and other changes in the law. These changes, which they said were made neces-

sary by developments in Israel and abroad, will be one of the topics at the institute's general meeting, which will begin here on Wednesday.

Friedkes stressed that certified public accountants should receive not only more responsibility but more freedom. They should be more independent of the managing directors of large firms, and be responsible rather to the boards of directors.

Noting that their job is to be a safe guard against financial laws being broken, he added that it was their duty to go to the police. However, their job would be easier if they could go to the board of directors when they knew of financial wrongdoing.

The institute also favours the introduction of Value Added Tax, which would mean completion of the Government's tax-reform programme.

The institute now has 1,715 members. It says another 1,500 persons, including new immigrants, are studying to become public accountants.

Man beaten to death in fight over land

KHAN YUNIS — One local resident was killed and six others were injured on Saturday in a fight between members of two clans.

Suleiman Abu-Hassan, 50, received fatal injuries in the head from a mattock. He died in hospital.

The fight apparently involved several families long engaged in a dispute over land. The police arrested seven members of the Abu-Hassan and Rumlyia families, including the man suspected of causing the death.

After spirits calmed down, the police left a detachment at the site to prevent a new flare-up or attempts to avenge the death. Police officers conferred with the elders of the families, and asked their help in arranging a *sulha* (reconciliation).

Histadrut won't forgo C-o-L hike in April

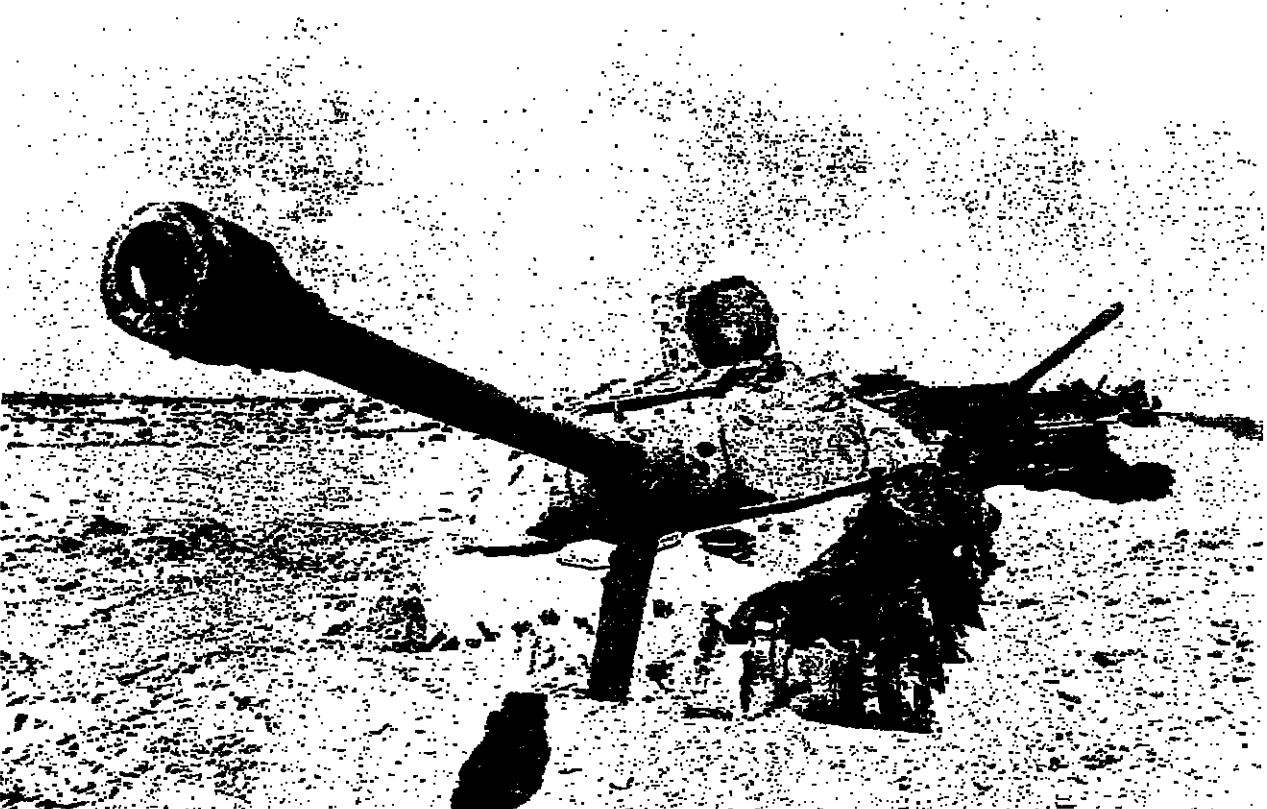
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV — Histadrut Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel declared yesterday that under no circumstances will the labour federation agree to forgo an increase of the Cost-of-Living allowance due in April.

An approximate 10 per cent increase is due at that time in accordance with an agreement signed last summer by the Government, the Histadrut and the Coordinating Bureau of Economic Organizations. Meshel said that the only way to avoid it was to reduce prices so that an increase in the allowance would not be necessary.

The Secretary-General reportedly suspects that the Treasury is trying to find out the possible reactions if the Histadrut were to forgo an increase in the allowance in exchange for maintaining the present level of subsidies. It is expected that the subsidies will be cut drastically on April 1.

Avraham Shavit, president of the Manufacturers Association, reported that he had also heard this idea mentioned.



Among the items salvaged from the area evacuated by the IDF in Sinai were knocked-out Egyptian tanks for use in target practice by Israeli gunners. A row of these tanks is seen beside one of the new roads built inside Israel's new lines.

'Sinai pullback a total success'

Jerusalem Post Military Correspondent

Israel's redeployment in Sinai was one of the most complicated logistical operations ever handled by the IDF, but thanks to careful planning and strict inspection procedures were nevertheless a complete success. This was stated yesterday by the IDF Chief of Logistics, Aluf Arye Levi, who told military correspondents that expenditure on the redeployment had remained well within the budgetary limits set in advance; all deadlines had been met according to plan, he added.

Special efforts were made to avoid a "boom situation" amongst private contractors, and prices were kept at the level prevailing before the operation. Levi said army units and equipment had been used as much as possible, and that only about half of the budget (which was not made public) had gone to civilian contractors.

Among the installations dismantled within the new lines or stored for future use were entire camps, hundreds of kilometers of water pipe, communications equipment, fortifications and fences — including 184,000 coils of barbed wire and 360,000 fence poles. Many tens of thousands of land mines had been dug up, and the withdrawal area was combed for any items worth transporting to the new bases. In all, equipment worth close to IL200m. was moved back, Levi said.

Erection of new camps for the withdrawing units was planned so that troops would have the minimum wait for proper facilities. After the redeployment, all regular army units in Sinai will for the first time be housed in permanent structures, and only some reservists will have to live in tents.

As one of the measures adopted to prevent negligence and unnecessary damage, it was made clear to each unit that the structures and equipment which it was using in the old position would continue to serve it in the new one. Contractors or army units had been obliged to re-erect the same camps they dismantled.

A number of installations, including camps, airstrips and communications lines, were left intact for the use of the UN in the new buffer

zone. Aluf Levi estimated the value of these at over IL20m., but did not know how much the UN would actually be paying. Water pipelines to these installations were also left intact, and Israel will supply them with water.

Aluf Levi stressed that the Logistics Branch had learned many valuable lessons from the withdrawal operation and was now working out proposals for applying them to its regular functions. A welcome by-product of the withdrawal, Aluf Levi said, was that it fostered among the units in Sinai a positive attitude towards taking proper care of equipment. In some cases items meant to be left behind had been moved out only because of the awareness among the troops of the high costs of equipment. Also, the rapid entry into

new, properly-equipped camps had been a morale-booster for the troops, he said. Levi said only the first stage of the operation had been completed — evacuation of the withdrawal area and the provision of minimum facilities. Putting the finishing touches to the new bases and the infrastructure of roads and communications systems in the new lines would continue for many months.

Replying to a question, Aluf Levi said that as soon as U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger had arrived in Israel for the talks on the disengagement agreement, orders had been issued to stop all building operations in the area likely to be evacuated, except for fortifications. Work on the latter had continued until the agreement was actually signed.



DRY BONES SELLS LIKE HOT CAKES. — Cartoonist Ya'akov Kirschen, *The Jerusalem Post's* "Dry Bones," autographing copies of his first book of cartoons at The Book Shop in Jerusalem yesterday. A large crowd purchased several hundred books within a few hours. One young soldier on leave bought a dozen books to distribute to his buddies back in camp. (Photo Yovel)

Helsinki-Eilat charter flights

By SHEILA MELTZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

ELAT. — A new weekly charter flight from Europe — this one from Helsinki — was inaugurated yesterday, as a Finnair Super-Caravelle jet touched down here.

This is the second weekly charter flight to bring tourists directly to Eilat. The first such flight, was instituted in November, by Starling Air, which brings a plane-load of tourists each week from Copenhagen. According to a Tourism Ministry official, many other tour operators and charter airlines have asked for permission to institute similar flights direct to Eilat.

The Finnish weekly charter is operated by Ideal Tours, which has brought tourists and volunteers from Finland since 1968. Last year it brought 14,000 persons to Israel, and this year it expects the number to exceed 20,000. In addition to the Eilat flight, Ideal Tours operates a weekly charter flight to Ben-Gurion every Monday. It will now increase its passenger capacity on this flight by switching to a DC-10 jet.

All the charter flights to Eilat so far have been fully booked. Finnish Ambassador, Matti Kahiluoto, was on hand to greet the inaugural flight, as was the commander of the Finnish forces serving with the UN in Sinai — his wife arrived on the flight. (Cabinet on charters — page 3)

Lederman leads in chess tourney

By ELIAHU SHAHAF
Jerusalem Post Chess Correspondent

BEERSHEBA. — Senior master Leon Lederman of Israel retained his lead in the fifth round of the international chess tournament here yesterday, salvaging what appeared to be a lost game from Italy's Stefano Tatai.

The only other two games completed by the end of the first session were draws between Ya'acov Bleiman of Israel and Dragan Marovic of Yugoslavia, and between Vladimir Liberson of Israel and Maja Damjanovic of Yugoslavia. The second session of the round was to be played from 10 p.m. to midnight.

In the previous round, Lederman suffered his first loss of the tourney, to grandmaster Marovic. At the end of the first session yesterday the standings were: Lederman 4; Liberson 3½; Marovic 3; Kraidman 2½ (1); Damjanovic 2½; Radaahkovich 2 (2); Kagan 1 (2); Hardstone 1 (2); Czerniak 1 (1); Giterman 1 (1); and Tatai ½ (1). The numbers in parentheses denote unfinished games.

The central games in the sixth round, tomorrow, will be between Lederman and Bleiman, and between Liberson and Marovic.

Temple Mount quiet

Jerusalem Post Reporter

For the first time in almost two weeks, there were no disturbances yesterday or Saturday in Jerusalem over the recent lower court ruling permitting Jewish prayer on the Temple Mount.

The absence of demonstrations came after Arab dignitaries pledged on Friday to do all in their power to restrain the high-school youths who have been creating the disturbances. Ninety youths were still in custody yesterday awaiting trial in connection with the demonstrations.

Bomb in truck cabin defused

TEL AVIV. — A bomb discovered in the cab of a pickup truck yesterday was dismantled before it could do any damage.

Furniture polisher Ya'acov David, 32, of Rehov Antigonus, told police he noticed a large can in his truck which aroused his suspicion. Looking inside he saw a hand sticking up with string, he said.

The police rapper who dismantled the grenade said it was of the fragmentation type used by the army and that it would have exploded if the truck moved.

David said he had no idea who would want to hurt him. The

Suspect freed in Kitan guard's murder

UPPER NAZARETH. — A man suspected of having an unclear link to the murder of night watchman Motel Resnik at the Kitan textile plant here last December was released on bail yesterday as being held for two months.

The man, whose name was released twice by special permission of the State Attorney, but is not known whether he will be indicted, and on what charges.

Police believe the key to the murder of Resnik, who was found with four bullet wounds on the night of December 12, is in the hand of the man released yesterday. He was at the factory on the night of the murder and saw Resnik go to at least twice, without reporting the case to the police. All attempts to persuade him to state a confession have failed, it was reported.

Six senior Kitan employees were charged with stealing IL15A worth of goods from the factory, a result of the investigation. Police theory is that the watchman was killed because he was a witness to the thefts.

Bank vault theft victims retain Tamir

Jerusalem Post Reporter

RAMAT GAN. — Users of 50 deposit boxes looted at a branch of Barclays Discount Bank early this month have retained Knesset Member Shmuel Tamir to represent them in their legal fight with the bank — which they say was negligent in its security measures.

The five-man committee which hired Tamir said it represents 150 individuals, some 200 boxes were robbed in the break-in at a bank's Rehov Jabotinsky branch which took place over the first end of the month. Barclays Discount has so far refused to compensate the victims.

According to Arye Haggai, who represents the bank, the Tel Aviv District Court has instructed the bank to begin drawing up a list of the property found on the night floor after the robbery. Once a list is drawn up it will be presented to the courts for approval, and which distribution of this property will begin. The property, which includes stocks and bonds, stamps and gold coins, is valued in the millions.

So far police have been unable to come up with any concrete leads on the robbery. According to one police source, the evidence supplied by one witness who underwent hypnosis has not proved very helpful.

Forced to agree to be deported, says prisoner

The High Court of Justice yesterday issued an order nisi calling on the Defence and Interior Ministries to show cause within 10 days why they should not rescind an expulsion order issued against a Jerusalem-area resident.

Khaled Zawawi of Kalandia, currently serving a three-year sentence for security offences, claims his agreement to the expulsion order was wrung from him under duress. He said the Military Government investigator in Ramatli Abu El-Abed, induced him to sign a declaration saying that he wanted to be expelled from the country.

Zawawi claims that, as a result of beatings he suffered during earlier investigations, he had to undergo two operations for the removal of blood clots from the brain. He implored health, he said, brought him to the state in which he agreed to the expulsion order. (Itm)

Bat-Dor to S. Africa

TEL AVIV. — The Bat-Dor dance company left Israel early yesterday for a series of 25 performances in South Africa. The company's first two programmes in Johannesburg are already sold out.

The premiere will take place Wednesday in the Civic Theatre.

RUBIN ACADEMY OF MUSIC JERUSALEM

mourns deeply the passing of

JEANNETTE LOURIE

and extends condolences to

ARTHUR LOURIE, Chairman of the Board

We deeply mourn the passing of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother and sister

ESTHER GELBAUM (née Grabelsky)

This funeral will leave from Beilinson Hospital today, February 23, 1976 at 2.45 p.m. for the Petah Tikva cemetery.

Husband: Moshe Gelbaum

Sons: Gad and Omri and families

Sister: Judy Antebi and family

Brother: David Grabelsky and family

BASKETBALL

Last night's National League basketball results:

Gan Shmuel Hapoel 85, Tel Aviv Hapoel 98; Elitzur 90, Jerusalem Betar 60; Haifa Hapoel 79, Petah Tikva Hapoel 75; Givat Brenner-Na'an Hapoel 81, Ramat Gan Hapoel 98; Ramat Gan Maccabi 74, Gvat-Yagur Hapoel 82; Tel Aviv Maccabi 127, Haifa Maccabi 66.

DIE FLEDERMAUS

Operetta by Strauss

Tickets at Ben Naim and the box office.

The Israel National Opera

BEIT LESSIN FILMS

Tonight at 9

The film:

Julius Caesar

with Marlon Brando

Tickets: Beit Lessin box office, 34 Rehov Weizmann, Tel Aviv. Tel. 325891

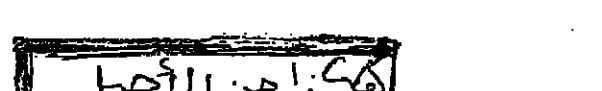
Vocal Newspaper

Friday, February 27 at 11 a.m. at Beit Sokolov, Tel Aviv:

GAD YAACOB, Minister of Transport

Members of the Journalists' Association who wish to participate are asked to advise the Association's (Tel. 03-266040)

8.30 a.m.-7.00 p.m., by Thursday.



Heth C'ttee asked to be specific Cabinet postpones its decision on charters

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The Cabinet's much-postponed decision about charter flights to Israel was deferred again at yesterday's weekly session, as the conflicting views of the Ministers of Transport and of Tourism were more thrown into high relief. The suggestion of Justice Minister Haim Zadok, the Cabinet decided to ask the Heth Committee for an exhaustive report to be made once more. It gave the committee two weeks in which to implement the recommendations of the implementation of its own proposals to the Cabinet's Committee of Economic Ministers. The principal disagreements between Tourism Minister Moshe Kohn and Transport Minister Gad Ya'acobi concern charter flights from Germany, the U.K. and points in the United States of the Greater New York area. In general, the Tourism Minister wants more charters and restrictions.

At first Kohn wanted the Cabinet to vote approval of the Heth report in principle, without going into specifics. However, Mr. Zadok noted that some of the report's proposals were somewhat vague and could be phrased less ambiguously. So he proposed that the Heth Committee be reconvened and told to draft operative proposals in simple and unambiguous terms. Kohn and a majority of the ministers backed Zadok's postponement compromise. Ya'acobi, Defence Minister Shimon Peres and a handful of others voted against. Yet another compromise was tried in vain by Foreign Minister Yigal Alon, who proposed that those charters on which Kohn and Ya'acobi already agree should be implemented forthwith, so as to make the most of the spring tourist season. However, Ya'acobi foisted this bid, arguing that he wanted a package-deal agreement on charters, not a piecemeal arrangement.

Egged: 15% service cut from Sunday

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Egged will cut down its services by 15 per cent as of next Sunday, the bus cooperative's secretariat decided here yesterday. An Egged spokesman was unable yesterday to say which lines would be affected by the cuts, which will mean either complete dropping of the line, fewer buses on the route, or an earlier end to service at night.

Asked to comment, the Transport Ministry spokesman said that Egged must obtain approval from the Controller of Road Transport, Ya'acov Malka, before it can cut service. As of last night, Malka's office had not received any notification of cuts from Egged, the spokesman said. He refused to speculate as to whether permission would be granted.

Another topic discussed at yesterday's Egged secretariat meeting was the firing of about 450 salaried workers. The spokesman said letters of dismissal had already been sent; but he emphasized that Egged is also discussing the alternative of pensioning off 200 to 300 of its own members.

This early retirement would be available to members who have been in the cooperative at least 25 years and who are at least 45 years old. The first to be pensioned off would be those in ill health, he said.

On the long-proposed merger with the Dan cooperative, which serves the Greater Tel Aviv area, it was decided to hold a joint meeting of the two systems' secretariats later this week.

Taking part in yesterday's meeting was Ramon Harel, the newly appointed representative of the Histadrut's Ezeret Ha'ovdim on the secretariat. He was not assigned any specific tasks.

Soviet propaganda at work to deter Jewish emigration

LONDON. — Jewish sources report from Rakhitz in the Soviet Union that a local cinema showed a film on Israel depicting barefoot and ragged children and scenes of Jews begging to be allowed to leave the country. As a result, a would-be Jewish emigrant was so upset that she tried to cancel her application for an exit visa. Her brother and others finally persuaded her that the film was purely Soviet propaganda.

Sources say the situation of the Jews in the town is bad and getting worse. Jews are accosted in the streets and insulted in their places of work. In the past there were Jews in senior positions who could help their co-religionists, but more recently all Jews holding executive positions have been dismissed.

Other Jewish sources report that the Jews of Novokuznetsk, near Kemerovo, as in many other of the new Siberian towns, face special difficulties. No emigration is allowed whatsoever, and they are not able to receive information on Jewish history, culture, or traditions.

Jewish sources also reported yesterday that the Dzerzhinskaya Pravda, "Dagenstanskaya Pravda," has published an article recently by a Jewish journalist warning Jews that "it was unpatriotic to apply to emigrate to Israel." The author claimed that all nations in the USSR, including the Jews, "lived in friendship and brotherhood."

According to the sources, the article provoked an angry reaction from local Jews, some of whom claimed that they were being oppressed by the regime. They pointed out that last year the local Communist Party committee had ordered the dismissal of four officers of the synagogue on the grounds that 30 years ago they were in prison. The congregation objected that the officers had been elected by them democratically and that 30 years ago, under Stalin, many of the Communists themselves were in

the same prisons. Despite the objections, the party insisted on new elections in the synagogue, having nominated their own representatives.

On the subject of the recent Brussels Conference on Soviet Jewry, the "Sunday Times" disclosed yesterday that it had received 28 letters purporting to come from Soviet Jews and denouncing the conference. The "Sunday Times" categorizes the letters as follows: those coming from "ordinary" Jews, saying there is no other country in the world where Jews are as well treated as in the USSR; those from groups of Jewish scientists, engineers or technicians working in factories and research institutes; individual Jewish academics; and Communist Party members.

The "Sunday Times" also received one telegram obviously not part of the Soviet propaganda campaign. This from Professor Chlevich (no first name given), head of the Daugavpils Institute of Pediatrics in Latvia, said: "The Soviet authorities want to create the impression that the fall in emigration is the result of most Jews being happy in the Soviet Union. But the truth behind the reduction in the emigrants' total is that more obstacles are now being placed in their path, despite the Helsinki Conference."

The "Sunday Times" concludes: "If the letters are the result of an officially organized campaign, it is not hard to guess its purpose..." It also notes that most of the letters were remarkably similar in style and content.

Amalrik back in Moscow after 36-hour detention

MOSCOW. — Dissident historian Andrei Amalrik said yesterday he had been taken on an odyssey of some 400 kilometres during the previous 36 hours by Soviet police and then released without any explanation for the action.

Amalrik told correspondents in his wife's Moscow apartment later that the only explanation he could imagine for his detention was "official nervousness before the party congress."

He was referring to the 25th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party, which begins Tuesday. Some 5,000 delegates, including many from other countries, have been invited. (Story, page 1.)

Prior to previous congresses here, many dissident intellectuals and Jewish activists have been held either in custody or under house detention to avoid embarrassing demonstrations. This time, how-

ever, Amalrik and other dissidents believe authorities probably will not conduct any mass roundup for fear of setting off international protests.

Amalrik, 37, said four men grabbed him on the street Friday night and took him by car to a police station in his home district of Kaluga, some 300 kilometres south of Moscow.

Amalrik, author of "Will the Soviet Union Survive Until 1984?" said he was kept in jail until early Saturday morning and then driven north to another police station in Borovsk, some 120 kilometres closer to Moscow. There he was told to report back for "a talk" about his job and residence status on Tuesday, which is the first day of the congress. Then he was put on a train back to Moscow.

The writer, who was released last May after five years in prison and exile for "anti-Soviet activity," said it appeared the various police organs were confused as to what to do with him. This was his fourth police detention in six months. He had previously been questioned on grounds that he was living illegally in Moscow, where his wife, Gysela, has an apartment.

They now officially reside near Kaluga but are allowed to return to the capital for three-day stays. (AP)

Broken promises anger civil servants — Molk

HAIFA. — Labour relations in Government offices are deteriorating because some Government ministries have failed to honour agreements, Labour Council secretary Eliezer Molk said in a letter to Civil Service Commissioner Ya'acov Nitzan last week.

Molk wrote that the council has had to intervene several times lately in disputes arising from the refusal of Government agencies to carry out their undertakings. Among these are the railway and the customs bureau.

"A situation has arisen in which matters are solved quickly only by the imposition of sanctions, not approved by the Histadrut, or by the threat of sanctions," Molk declared.

Civil Servants Union asks members to wait

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The Union of Civil Servants yesterday called upon its members to cancel meetings they had scheduled to outline wage demands.

Government employees in all ministries except Defence, Police and Communications plan meetings from 10-11 a.m. tomorrow, asking that the pay scale be uniform for all. At present 18,000 of the 120,000 employees receive "specialty" allowances for special duties.

The Histadrut pointed out that a committee of economists is examining the workers' demands and its findings are due by the end of the month.

New settlement for the Negev hills

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Ashalm, a new settlement sponsored by the Moshav Movement, was inaugurated last week at the Be'er Asul junction, 20 km. south of here.

The first 15 families in the settlement, which is near Kibbutz Mashabei Sadeh, will live in caravans while getting the site ready. At last week's ceremony Agriculture Minister Avraham Uzan noted that this is the first settlement to be established in the desolate Negev Heights area in 24 years. He called on other settlers to join the Ashalm nucleus, who have come from all over Israel.

Marcovici in TA debut

TEL AVIV. — The young violinist Sylvia Marcovici, who recently immigrated from Rumania, made a triumphant debut here with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra at the Mann Auditorium Saturday night. The widely acclaimed performer took ten curtain calls after playing Bruch's Concerto in G, with Zubin Mehta conducting.

Still no word from U.S. on easing aid restrictions

By GIDION ESHET

Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter
The American Administration has yet approved Israel's request for \$150m. of the proposed aid outside the U.S. according to the terms of the aid recipient countries have to share the goods within the U.S. As in 1975, Israel requested \$150m. be exempted from this provision so that Israel could use money according to its needs. Before leaving on his latest visit to U.S. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, said that getting the Administration to agree would be one of more important targets of the mission. However, to date no approval has been given; Israeli and American officials have been negotiating issue for several weeks. Economic circles in Jerusalem expressed pessimism as to the outcome of the negotiations. They said Pentagon is known to oppose Israel's request because it is not

in the interest of American producers.

In the meantime, under the assumption that the request will be granted, the Cabinet has increased the defence budget for 1976 by over IL1,000m. to compensate it for the \$150m. which is to be used for non-defence items.

If the request is not granted, Israel's capital imports will decline and the deficit in the balance of payments will increase by \$150m.

brought doubles wheat imports

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — An extra 100,000 to 200,000 tons of wheat will have to be imported this year from the U.S. — at a cost of \$20m. to \$25m. — because of the drought in the U.S. Agriculture Ministry deputy secretary-general Haim Molcho said today.

Molcho, who was touring the U.S. said the drought had already cost 100,000 dunam of the 850,000 winter field crops in the Jewish agricultural sector. He said the 100,000 dunam would be in the south, where 40 to 50 mm. of rain in the year's wheat yield was covered 200,000 tons of Israel's consumption of about 450,000 tons, he said. The optimists now for a harvest of 200,000 tons, the pessimists fear it will only 150,000 tons. The remaining 200 to 300,000 tons will have to be imported from the U.S. Molcho said there was no fear of receiving the grain, as an agreement had already been signed with Americans.

As to water, Molcho said farmers were worried about the coming of last year's good winter had had plentiful groundwater.

Simon visit to include major research deal

Jerusalem Post Reporter

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. and Israel are expected to sign an important research and development agreement during U.S. Treasury Secretary William Simon's March 1 to Israel, informed sources said yesterday.

Israeli and American officials have been negotiating the agreement for several months in the hope of completing it before Simon's visit. Secretary Simon is due to spend two days in Israel next week. Israeli officials said yesterday the agreement, which will need personal approval, is very important for Israel and could result in savings of many millions of dollars. It is the first such agreement between the two states.

PIGRIMAGE PROGRAMME of United Jewish Appeal of France brings some 1,000 French Jews to Israel in weekly groups of 60 to participate in study missions organized by the Keren Hayesod Jewish Appeal in Jerusalem.

Cities union considers major cuts in services

By SARAH HONIG

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Union of Local Authorities is considering a cut in all services which municipalities share with the central government — such as education, health, welfare and religion. This step would be taken to protest the failure of the Government to turn over to the cities funds it owes them, thereby forcing them to take out high-interest loans on the private money market.

The union claims that education, for example, is a service for which the central government is responsible and should foot the whole bill for it. As is, the Government only partly finances these services, and the cities spend IL500m. a year on

them — which is precisely the amount they lack to balance their budgets.

At present the Government covers different proportions of the budgets for the various services. There are no set criteria for how much each city gets, and the municipalities usually have to haggle for greater financial aid.

Among other union grievances is the Treasury's refusal to do anything about the accumulated IL150m. deficit for the 1975/76 fiscal year which ends in March. For the 1976/77 fiscal year, the Government has cut its contribution to municipal budgets by IL200m., which it expects the cities to raise by tightening belts and intensifying tax collection.

New-car sales down 44%

Jerusalem Post Reporter

New-car sales last year came to about 21,700 — almost 44 per cent less than in 1974 and the lowest total since 1969, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

A similar downward trend in sales affected other durable goods. Sales of television sets in 1975 were 76,000, 15 per cent less than in 1974; washing machines, 71,000 (down 26 per cent); refrigerators, 78,000, (down 15 per cent).

Imports were the big losers. The import of television sets dropped 45 per cent, while local sets only lost 2 per cent. Sales of foreign-made washing machines dropped by 22 per cent, while sales of local machines went up 2 per cent.

The decline for refrigerators (15 per cent) was the same for imports and local makes.

The share of local manufacturers in the television set market rose from 70 per cent in 1974 to 81 per cent last year, while that of washing machines rose from 18 per cent to 24 per cent. The share of locally made refrigerators remained steady at 80 per cent.

Design dep't at Holon college

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Tel Aviv University yesterday officially inaugurated an industrial design department at its Holon Centre for Technological Education.

The department already has 20 students studying for bachelor's degrees in technical education which will be awarded at the end of the four-year course. Next year it expects to enrol another 40 first-year students.

At a press conference here yesterday Meir Ben Zvi, head of the Israel Design Centre, said the department had been set up because of the great need for industrial designers in Israel. He emphasized that this need would grow with Israel's ties to the European Common Market.

In certain fields, Ben-Zvi said, Israel has already developed a certain style which is specifically her own. He mentioned certain colours used in the textile industry, which he said have been dubbed abroad without the local manufacturers' knowledge "Israeli colours."

The new industrial design department is headed by Dr. Yosef Rapp, an Israeli who studied at the University of Syracuse in New York.

Parents protest lack of space at Arab school

HAIFA. — The parents committee of the Merikaz junior high school for Arabs yesterday decided not to register the 120 graduating pupils of the ninth grade for high school next year.

They are protesting the absence of classrooms for 10th grade, which they say would force them to register their children at church-run high schools. They demand that the Education Ministry and municipality provide the requisite services for their children.

The schools which includes seventh to ninth grades, has 380 pupils.

Tel Aviv executive sees IL1,000m. budget draft

Jerusalem Post Staff

TEL AVIV. — This city's annual operating budget for the coming fiscal year will be IL1,000m. — 70 per cent of which will go to paying salaries and back debts. This was disclosed yesterday when Municipal Treasurer Na'aman Gur presented the draft budget to the City Executive.

Gur attributed the rise over the current year's IL760m. budget chiefly to inflation.

The proportion of the budget allocated for wages and repayment of loans remains essentially what it has been this year.

The proportion of the deficit will decrease — from the current 23 per cent to 21 per cent in the 1976/77 budget year, which begins on April 1. In figures, however, the deficit will grow to IL210m. from the current IL174.2m.

There will be IL23m. more in the new budget for such services as sanitation, education and youth activities, Gur added.

The City will have a net increase of 78 employees in the coming fiscal year, he said, but none will hold administrative jobs.

The City Executive will begin debating the new budget on Friday. Mayor Shlomo Lahat is expected back today from a fundraising tour of South America.

TAXES RISE

In neighbouring Ramat Gan, meanwhile, Mayor Israel Peled is expected to ask the municipal finance committee today for permission to raise taxes. The increases he seeks



Rehearsals are taking place this week at the Tel Aviv fairgrounds for the Purim "adloyada" (Michael Linor-Rotem)

"THE PEN IS MIGHTIER
THAN THE SWORD."

Bulwer-Lytton

A WORD TO THE WISE

Insurance with



Contractor must honour price given by agent

TEL AVIV. — A building contractor who authorized a broker to sell his flats was forced to honour the price quoted by the broker, according to a District Court decision given yesterday.

The case was that of Adi Fisch, a sergeant in the regular army, who in February 1974 paid the Drot Gindi real estate office a IL5,000 deposit on a flat in Rishon LeZion. The flat was being built by the Gildad and Anat company. The price quoted by the brokers was IL120,000 — although it emerged at the trial that the builders were asking a much higher price at the time.

When Fisch came to the broker's office to sign a formal contract, following the initialing of a preliminary agreement and payment of the deposit, the broker, Amos Gildad, happened to be in the office. Hearing the sale price he protested that the price was IL180,000.

The contract was not signed, and Fisch took the case to court.

District Court Judge Shlomo Ascher upheld the sergeant's claim. Basing himself on a Supreme Court decision, however, he ruled that the purchaser would have to pay an increase commensurate with the rise in the Building Index since February 1974. He said that in today's inflationary market, and in view of the time it took for cases to come to court, the seller was entitled to this linkage. (Itim)

Rimalt joins call for new government

Jerusalem Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Former Liberal Party chairman Elimelech Rimalt yesterday called for the appointment of a caretaker government for one year, with preparations for general elections to be made during that time.

Such a government, said Dr. Rimalt, should consist of key persons generally trusted by the public and should be bound only by a small number of broadly accepted planks — such as that Israel will not return to the pre-1967 borders and that Jerusalem must remain united. Rimalt was speaking here to political reporters.

The next elections will be crucial for the Likud, he said. "If staying in power for a long time produces degeneration, being permanently in opposition causes frustration," Rimalt noted. He said he would like the Liberal Party to be more "energetic" within the Likud, proposing new ideas for discussion.

But the ex-Liberal chief, who stepped down because he believed the party's leadership should rotate, ruled out the possibility that the Liberals would leave the Likud. "There is no alternative to the Likud," he maintained.

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Hagai Leven-sha Aylon

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Muhammad Ali talks with newsmen as a battered Jean-Pierre Cooman looks on after their Saturday night fight in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Ali knocked out the Belgian stonemason in the fifth round. In the centre is Mrs. Cooman. (AP radiophoto)

UK sex file purloined in scandal

By MARK SEGAL
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — The reports of the disappearance of a sex file from the House of Commons have caused a scandal. The documents were reportedly stolen from an MP's desk in the House of Commons.
The missing documents include letters and a top secret brief used in a private party "trial" of Thorpe which convinced the Liberal leadership of Thorpe's innocence of the allegations made by Norman Scott. The file, which belonged to Liberal MP Emyln Hooson, who interrogated Thorpe at the party "trial," was taken from the office desk of another Liberal MP, Richard Wainwright. Hooson had lent the file to Wainwright. The disappearance of the file is causing great furor in the news media with commentators pointing out that anyone admitted to the House of Commons can freely walk into MP offices after working hours. The incident may or may not aggravate Thorpe's precarious situation. However, it should certainly lead to a tightening of security at Westminster which at the present time is limited to inspection of passers and body searches for bombs and arms.

Peaceful tribute to IRA 'martyr'

DUBLIN. — Almost outnumbered by troops and police, Irish Republican Army (IRA) sympathizers held a peaceful march and demonstration yesterday for a member who starved himself to death in a British jail.
Bustle of supporters of the militant provisional wing of the IRA crossed the Irish border from Northern Ireland to the ceremony for Frank Stagg, 34, who died on February 12 in Wakefield Prison after a 61-day fast.
More than 1,000 Irish troops and police swarmed over the area. They ringed the western Irish village of Ballyna, stopping and searching every vehicle approaching the village from noon onward.
Soldiers were posted among the tombstones of League Cemetery, where Stagg's body was buried on Saturday in a grave dug by two detectives. (UPI)

'JKF smoked pot'

LANTANA, Florida. — The weekly newspaper "National Enquirer" reports that the late President John Kennedy had a Washington woman while he was in the White House. F. Kennedy carried on a two-year affair with Mary Meyer in 1962 and 1963, until he was assassinated in Dallas. It said Kennedy once smoked marijuana with her. It also said a CIA agent turned a diary Miss Meyer kept about the affair after her unsolved murder in 1964. (AP)

Rhodesian troops hunt units backed by Reds

SALISBURY. — Black and white Rhodesian troops are searching the mountains of the Eastern Highlands for Soviet-armed insurgents, who have opened a new guerrilla front in the rugged area dotted with tourist hotels and sparkling trout streams.
As trackers treaded silently through the hills and marksmen lie in ambush at selected trails, white families are turning their farms into fortresses.
Like farmers in Northeastern Rhodesia, where the Chinese-trained guerrillas had been confined until recently, the Rhodesian Highlanders are encircling their homes with steel fencing — a safeguard against the rockets and rifle-detonated grenades that have been fired on homesteads — and they carry rifles when they stroll around their grounds.
Yet while the insurgents trickle into the Highlands from camps in neighboring Mozambique, Rhodesian whites continue to leave the cities and towns for the 20 or so tourist hotels and fishing resorts in the mountains.
There has been only one incident since the new front opened that can be pinned on the rebels. That was in January when a truck was blown up by a land mine on a dirt road in far southeastern Rhodesia near both the Mozambique and South African frontiers.
If past guerrilla strategies offer a clue, the new gangs are probably lying low while they cache their AK-47 rifles, rockets, boxes of ammunition and land mines.
But according to sources close to the government, the rebel forces in Rhodesia are building up at an alarming rate. Official estimates are that the 80 guerrillas thought to have been in the country just before new year have been bolstered by a further 500 men in less than two months. And there is now the added threat of Soviet and Cuban support, the sources say.
If Rhodesians are jittery about the specter of having to fight against Cuban revolutionaries and the type of sophisticated Soviet war hardware that smashed the anti-Communist forces in Angola, they don't show it.
In Munich yesterday Britain's ambassador to Nato said African crusade against white rule in Rhodesia and South Africa, supported by Moscow, could follow the victory of the Soviet-backed side in Angola.
Sir John Killick told the annual Wehrkunde International Conference on Military Science that there was a possibility of African countries drawing their own conclusions from what he called Western impotence in Angola and adjusting their policies and alignments accordingly.
On Friday there was a three-hour gun battle between Rhodesian security forces with forces in Mozambique. It is not known whether they were Mozambique Frontline troops or guerrillas. The clash occurred when a party of twelve fly-control workers was fired on. No one on the Rhodesian side was hurt. (AP, Reuters)

Luanda releases two U.S. pilots

LISBON. — Two American pilots arrested 11 days ago when their civilian airliner was intercepted off the Angolan coast arrived here yesterday from the Angolan capital of Luanda.
Angolan authorities handed them over to the International Red Cross in Luanda on Saturday. Neither Roger Carley nor Richard Furskio would make statements to the press on arrival here. They were expected to travel on to New York late last night.
The empty 44-seat Fairchild airliner which they were delivering to South-West African Airways landed in Angola after it missed a refueling stopover on the island of Sao Tome. South-West African Airways said it was intercepted by jet fighters of the Soviet-backed People's Republic of Angola. (Reuters)

Saudi to finance Egypt's first arms deal with U.S.

BEIRUT. — Saudi Arabia has decided to extend new aid of \$1b. to Egypt, largely to finance the Egyptian first arms deal with the U.S., the Beirut newspaper "Al Anwar" reported yesterday.
The report appeared as rulers of the two Arab countries were scheduled to begin their talks in Riyadh.
The paper quoted reliable sources in the Saudi capital as saying \$700m. of the new aid would be spent for arms Egypt plans to buy from the U.S.
"The rest is designed to help Egypt out of its present economic difficulties," the newspaper said.
Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, who arrived in Riyadh on Saturday, has said he needs at least \$2b. over the next two years to maintain his military standard and keep his troubled economy afloat.
In a statement published yesterday in the Cairo newspaper "Al Ahrar," Egypt's Economy Minister Zaki El Shalbi said Egypt will get loans on easy terms and grants worth \$98m. to finance development projects from the World Bank and other sources. He said Egypt will obtain the funds under agreements concluded in Washington on Saturday with the Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the American Agency for International Development (AID). (AP, Reuters)

Beirut's \$20 m. bank heist

By JOSEPH FITCHETT
BEIRUT. — DETAILS OF an unprecedented para-military robbery, which probably netted the biggest haul in modern times, have emerged from reports here by investigators probing the sack of a British bank and two adjoining other foreign banks a fortnight ago during the last hours of Lebanon's civil war.
When the banks finally reopened in central Beirut after a six-week closure, loss estimates for the raid rose above \$10m. (\$20m.). Exact figures are not available because most of the loot came from safe-deposit boxes whose contents were secret.
At the British Bank of the Middle East Beirut box-owners, who include some of this city's richest individuals, have handed together in an association, apparently aimed at negotiating a ransom for jewellery and other booty which might be difficult to market, even internationally. But the robbers have so far failed to come forward.
The big bank knockover was the work of a highly-organized, heavily-armed gang, and bank officials suspect it involved professional help from the European underworld.
Exploiting the anarchy in the financial district during the climactic battle for this capital, about 30 armed men grabbed control of the three banks while fighting swirled in surrounding streets.
The gang broke through the walls of an adjacent Catholic church, then held off all-comers for 36 hours from the semi-detached block containing the banks. Inside, the vaults of all three were expertly emptied. The din of battle drowned out the sounds of explosions inside as the robbers blasted their way down to the money.
The most tempting, toughest target was the BEML — a long-established financial institution in the Middle East's major banking street.
In a highly professional operation, demolition specialists smashed through three steel-bar security gates and then through two armoured vault doors, each 45 centimetres thick.
"The explosive charges needed to budge those doors were powerful enough to bring down the building on their heads if they were mis-handled," an investigating engineer reported.
In the strongroom, 400 locker-sized safe-deposit boxes were opened by pouring acid on the locks, then systematically rifled. In a sub-basement, the BEML's treasury was blasted open in the same fashion and emptied.
The fail-safe alarm functioned. Bells rang, including an extension at the nearest Flying Squad office. But no police dared venture into the battle zone. Police stations were already being overrun by left-wing militia groups, who only vacated them a week later.
"Those vaults were built to resist any normal robbery, but the bank was beyond the reach of law and order for six weeks," explains a BEML officer.
The sacking completed, the criminals hurled Molotov cocktails into every floor, starting a blaze which gutted the building and consumed any evidence which might identify the culprits — reinforcing suspicions that the operation included men with international criminal records who wanted their fingerprints destroyed.
As the raiders fled the blazing building shortly before dawn on cease-fire day, they shot up an approaching fire-engine to allow the blaze to catch fully.
In the departing robbers' wake, frenzied looters burst into the ransacked, burning buildings and stripped them.
In addition to what the robbers took, the destruction will cost the BEML more than \$1m. The other two banks, the Algemene Bank Nederland (Dutch) and the National Commercial Bank (Saudi Arabian), are more resilient, but their losses appear heavy too.
"It was a unique situation: one of the world's richest banking streets suddenly passed out of Government authority and under the control of warring gangs," a banker explains. "Even Fort Knox could be robbed if there was no army to defend it."
Beirut's modern financial district was a stubbornly contested battlefield between the Lebanese Christian Phalangists and the Palestinian-backed Muslim and leftist forces. The bank street was the front line, and the BEML building changed hands several times between warring factions. (Ofm)

U.S. used plutonium on 18 human guinea pigs

WASHINGTON. — U.S. Government scientists injected 18 persons with radioactive plutonium 80 years ago to determine what effects the poisonous substance might have on workers producing the atomic bomb, the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) confirmed on Saturday.
An ERDA spokesman said available, sketchy records indicate that only one of the 18 was definitely known to have given consent to take part in the experiment.
The subjects were chosen because they were considered terminally ill with diseases or with accident injuries, but three — including the man who was informed in advance — are still alive, the spokesman said.
ERDA commented following publication of a story on the plutonium project in a science newsletter, "Science Trends."
The injection programme took place between 1945 and 1947 under the sponsorship of the Manhattan Engineer District, the code name for the super-secret government project that resulted in the successful development of the atomic bomb.

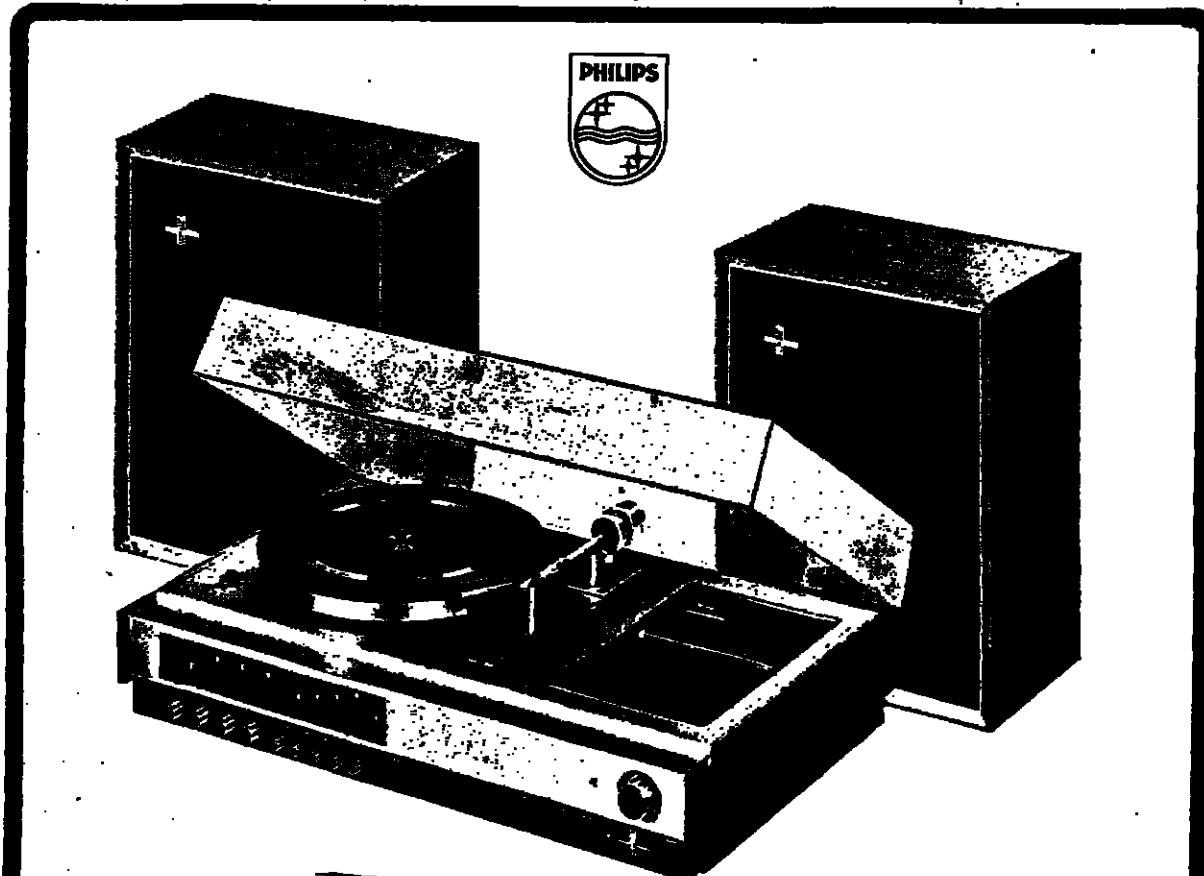
The agency said the purpose of the study was to gather "accurate information needed on retention and excretion of internal plutonium for setting safety criteria" for workers coming in contact with plutonium during the course of manufacturing atomic bombs.
Earlier attempts to set the criteria by use of experimental animals proved unsuccessful, it said, adding that the standards developed though the human injection programme remain in effect.
An ERDA fact sheet on the programme said that of the 18 participants, seven died within a year of receiving the injections, three between one and three years, two between 14 and 20 years, one 28 years and two after unknown periods. Only one of the three still alive has not been told the nature of the experiment, the agency said.
The subjects of the experiment ranged in age from 4 to 50. ERDA said they received injections of plutonium ranging from two times the amount that scientists thought would be sufficient to cause cancer or other serious damage to 145 times that amount. (AP)

Panel maintains Ike had role in Lumumba slaying

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. Senate Committee on Intelligence has refused to disavow its finding by a "reasonable inference" that the late President Dwight D. Eisenhower authorized a plot to assassinate Congolese leader Patrice Lumumba. Former National Security adviser Gordon Gray, along with other former officials of the Eisenhower Administration, had written the committee to complain that Eisenhower had been unfairly linked to the assassination plot.
The committee's finding had been based on the testimony of one

"middle-level" official, Gray's letter said, while "all of the presidential advisers, the men closest to President Eisenhower, ... gave contrary testimony." The testimony implicating Eisenhower was given by Robert H. Johnson, former staff member of the National Security Council.
Senators Frank Church (Dem.), the committee chairman, and John Tower (Rep.), vice chairman, wrote Gray, saying: "We have decided that the committee cannot accede to your request for a disavowal."

Gray's letter said, while "all of the presidential advisers, the men closest to President Eisenhower, ... gave contrary testimony." The testimony implicating Eisenhower was given by Robert H. Johnson, former staff member of the National Security Council.
Senators Frank Church (Dem.), the committee chairman, and John Tower (Rep.), vice chairman, wrote Gray, saying: "We have decided that the committee cannot accede to your request for a disavowal."



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PHILIPS FOR LASTING VALUE

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Greek-Turk clashes feared in manoeuvres

ATHENS. — Greece and Turkey, their relations strained over Cyprus, are to hold naval and air manoeuvres in the Aegean Sea this week, raising fears here of military conflict.
Turkish naval and air forces are scheduled to hold manoeuvres in the Aegean on Wednesday and Thursday. Athens has been officially notified about the exercises but has told Ankara that Greece will not tolerate violation of its 10-mile air space and sea limits.
To drive the point home, the Greek fleet and air force are also manoeuvring in the Aegean this week. (Reuters)

Ethiopia denies U.S. base near Somalia

ADDIS ABABA. — The Provisional Military Government has denied a report saying Ethiopia was considering establishment of a U.S. military base in Ogaden province. The government called the report "the Paris-based 'Afric-Air' magazine 'a crude and blatant lie'."
Ogaden province lies close to the border with Somalia where the Soviet navy enjoys port facilities. (UPI)

Georgia reshuffle

MOSCOW. — The Ministers of Science and Social Security have been dropped from the government of Soviet Georgia as part of a major reshuffle in the republic, according to local press reports reaching here yesterday.
In the last few months both the President and the Prime Minister of Georgia also have been replaced, apparently in preparation for the Soviet Communist Party Congress which begins here tomorrow. (Reuters)

Soccer magic banned

DAR-ES-SALAAM. — Tanzania's national soccer team will have to do without black magic from now on. The government has sacked the Tanzania Football Association's six-man executive committee for using public funds to engage a witch doctor to bring the team luck. (AP)

'New Algeria' blast

PARIS. — A bomb exploded early yesterday in front of the Algerian Tourist Agency shattering windows and shattering two pedestrians. A caller identifying himself as a member of the "United Liberation Front for a New Algeria" claimed responsibility. (UPI)

Sterilization or jail in India

NEW DELHI. — Parents with three children who refuse sterilization could be jailed for two years in India's western Maharashtra State, State Chief Minister S. B. Chavan has been quoted as saying.
The New Indian News Agency said Chavan told reporters after a Cabinet meeting in Bombay that the state was working on a new family planning programme with the slogan "Persuasion after two children, compulsion after three."
India's population of 600 million increases by about 13 million every year. Already the northern Punjab State has told people joining Government service that they must sign an undertaking not to have more than two children. (Reuters)

THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
ANNOUNCEMENT

In response to the many requests by the public, we give an up-to-date summary of information regarding

DIRECTLY DIALED INTERNATIONAL CALLS

TARIFF:

A. STANDARD TARIFF

To all European countries (except Greece and Cyprus) IL16.50 per minute, one meter pulse every 1.23 sec.

Greece IL10.70 per minute, one meter pulse every 1.90 sec.

Cyprus IL6.29 per minute, one meter pulse every 3.29 sec. (From March 1, 1978, the rate to Cyprus will be IL4.50 per minute, one meter pulse every 4.24 sec.)

U.S.A. IL21.00 per minute, one meter pulse every 0.97 sec.

South Africa IL24.80 per minute, one meter pulse every 0.82 sec.

Japan IL31.00 per minute, one meter pulse every 0.66 sec.

Canada IL23.30 per minute, one meter pulse every 0.86 sec.

B. CHEAP TARIFF (25% reduction)

To Gt. Britain, Holland and France IL12.40 per minute, one meter pulse every 1.65 sec. The reduced tariff applies from Monday to Friday, 9 p.m. till 8 a.m. next morning, and from 9 p.m. Friday till 8 a.m. Monday.

U.S.A. and Canada Cheap weekend tariff from midnight Friday till midnight Sunday (48 hour period).

U.S.A. IL15.80 per minute or one meter pulse every 1.29 sec.

Canada IL17.50 per minute or one meter pulse every 1.17 sec.

The "195" service is at your service from 7 a.m. till midnight for enquiries regarding international directly dialled calls.

NOTE: With directly dialled calls, you pay according to the exact duration of the call, even if it lasts only a minute or two. With calls obtained through the "18" service, there is a minimum charge, equal to the cost of a three-minute call.

IN HIS THREE YEARS as chairman of the British Council, Lord Ballantrae has already visited half the 77 countries in which the Council pursues its cultural mission by maintaining libraries and reading rooms. During the week he spent here, Lord Ballantrae inspected Council libraries in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, and also met some of the friends he made here during Mandatory days. From Israel, he and his wife went on to Cyprus, Yugoslavia, Austria and Germany, where the Council has six branches.

Born in 1911, Lord Ballantrae is the youngest son of an aristocratic Scottish family. After attending Eton and Sandhurst he joined the famous Black Watch regiment and as a young officer was sent to Palestine in 1937. As his elder brother had married a grand-niece of Lord Balfour, he arrived here with a letter of introduction to Dr. Chaim Weizmann in Rehovot.

Soldiering, writing and public service have been Lord Ballantrae's life to this day. "I wrote my first newspaper article when I was 15," he told *The Jerusalem Post* in an interview at the King David Hotel. "I also wrote fiction, and light verse for 'Punch'." Tall, monocled and affable, Lord Ballantrae went on to recall meeting *Post* founder-editor Gershom Agon, when the newspaper was just five years old. Clearly on home ground at the King David, he mentioned to a bell-boy and asked him for matches in Arabic.

With the outbreak of World War II soldiering took over for Lord Ballantrae, then better known as Bernard Fergusson, but it later provided much of the material for his serious writing. In 1941 he took part in the British invasion of Syria, then held by the Vichy French. During the Burma campaign in 1943 and 1944 he commanded first a column, later a brigade in General Wingate's "Chindit" operations behind the Japanese lines. "I had first met Wingate at the old East Hotel in Jerusalem," he recalled.

In December 1946 Bernard Fergusson was back in Palestine, seconded as Assistant Inspector General of Police. One of his jobs was investigating the operation in which Jewish underground fighters breached the walls of the Acre fortress to release some of their comrades jailed there. Col. Fergusson's resignation at the end of 1947 was believed by some to be connected with his refusal



CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL Lord Ballantrae, K.T., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., O.B.E.

Promoting culture

By ERNIE MEYER / Jerusalem Post Reporter

to testify in the trial of Captain Roy Farran, accused of the murder of underground fighter Alexander Rabovitch.

During his stay in Tel Aviv last week, Lord Ballantrae had a cordial meeting with one of his erstwhile prisoners, Yigal Griffl, deputy

we certainly looked for him then."

The long list of people Lord Ballantrae called on here included Foreign Minister Yigal Alon, Mayor Teddy Kollek, the President of the Hebrew University and the head of the Church of Scotland in Jerusalem. He also found time to visit the widow of his old friend, the well-known British biographer and journalist John Connell, now *Post* staffer, Ruth Connell-Robertson.

After leaving the army Lord Ballantrae served as Governor-General of New Zealand from 1962 to 1967, a post which his two grandfathers and his father had held.

THE THREE British Council libraries in Israel have a paid-up (ILS a year) membership of about 3,600, library director Edge Semmens, who accompanied Lord Ballantrae, said. "We lend about 160,000 books a year, nearly 50 per member, the highest utilization rate of any of our branches in the world," he said. The Council also makes about 14,000 issues a year from its 1,200-copy film library.

The British Council was set up in 1924 by private individuals, primarily to foster overseas relations and to counteract the propaganda of the Fascist Axis states. "We never concentrated on immediate political issues but rather on underlying cultural trends. This emphasis continues to this day," Mr. Semmens said. The Council's annual budget is about £50m. much of which is covered by the government, although the Council still is not a government body.

Last year the Council was instrumental in bringing 23,000 students to Britain. At present 35 Israelis are studying there on Council scholarships. (Newly-appointed Foreign Ministry director-general Prof. Shlomo Avineri studied in England on such a scholarship.) The Council opened its first branch here in Tel Aviv in 1942.

"Our book acquisition policy is to avoid blatant propaganda, but to buy any book with a British component that is, written by a Briton, dealing with the country or produced there," Semmens explained.

"We've been kicked out of Cuba and Libya and we closed in Vietnam. I was in Saigon only four months before its fall," Lord Ballantrae said. The Council operates in several Communist countries, including Rumania, Hungary and Poland, where it is particularly popular.



'A Doll's House' by L'Ensemble Theatre Mobile.

Mendel Kohansky at a recent festival of experimental theatre in Brussels.

IBSEN WITH WIT AND STYLE

THE MOST INTRIGUING part of the show presented at the Brussels festival of Experimental Theatre by the Italian group Ouborboros, was its title, *Morte Della Geometria*. It made me expect something sophisticated and witty about man taking revenge for the tyranny exercised by Euclid's iron rules on our lives. And indeed, the show started on a promising note: clean geometric lines of the decor, the cast in black tights carefully stepping into the stage, the eye caught by the figures, this novel presentation of Macbeth added nothing to an understanding of Shakespeare's drama. On the contrary, the drama was reduced to mere action, and Shakespeare's magnificent poetry was replaced by a pedestrian retelling of the story.

gestures of Kabuki actors.

The marionettes were actually live actors hidden behind the exterior and manipulating them. Those exteriors, made of sackcloth and raw wood conjured up a primitive, barbaric world of dark intrigue and murder, of savage tribesmen hacking their enemies to pieces with giant, heavy swords. It was immensely impressive, but not for long. Once the idea was established, once the eye got used to the splendour of the figures, this novel presentation of Macbeth added nothing to an understanding of Shakespeare's drama. On the contrary, the drama was reduced to mere action, and Shakespeare's magnificent poetry was replaced by a pedestrian retelling of the story.

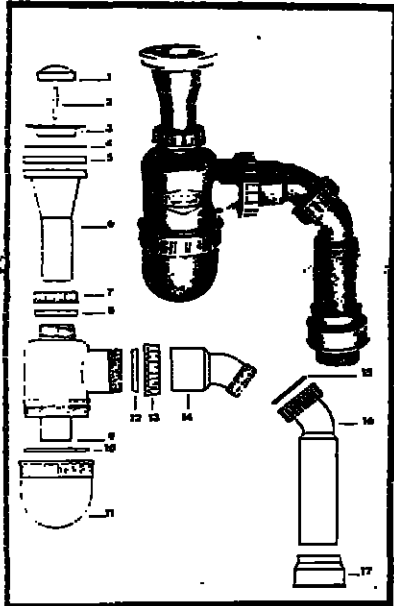
Thus, the stage was no longer the living room of the Heimer family with one wall removed to enable the audience to see the action inside. Instead, we watched a stage — a rectangular platform inclined towards the audience, a curtain forming the background. On this stage actors enacted the story of Nora, the woman who revolted against being a doll in a doll's house, and left her husband in order to become a person. The social aspect of Nora's life was stressed in the text which was so changed that the essence of the play, the economic workings of bourgeois society, emerged more clearly. The few characters on the stage clearly represented a society conditioned by money; whatever they did, whatever their motivations, their entire lifestyle, including the position of the woman in the family and in society, was dictated by the profit motive.

THE DIFFERENCE between the use of a novel stage device to present a classic and a novel interpretation of a classic was demonstrated the next evening when I saw the Belgian *L'Ensemble Theatre Mobile* production of Ibsen's *A Doll House*.

Written about 100 years ago now, the play deals with a subject ever more timely today — woman's place in society. But since the structure of the play is old-fashioned and its stark naturalism no longer appeals to a sophisticated modern public, the adapters gave the play a Brechtian touch, cut it up into scenes, each introduced by one of the characters.

The presentation had wit and style, the cast performed with rare skill and exquisite elegance. When Nora, played by an actress as beautiful as she was talented, rose from or sat down on a chaise longue, her movements had the fluid beauty of ballet. The blackmailing Krogstad played his part with just the touch of melodramatic villainy to make the audience chuckle at the dramatic moments. This show alone — apart from the city's famous cuisine — made the trip to Brussels worthwhile. (This is the second of two articles.)

Updating the kitchen sink



MOST PEOPLE have apparently never seen a kitchen waste disposal unit; if they had, they would not treat the kitchen sink as though it were one.

Because the kitchen sink is generally large in size, the drain is 2" in diameter as compared with the mere 1 1/2" of the washbasin in the bathroom. The standard waste trap fitted to kitchen sinks is the old-fashioned "S" made of lead tubing, with a removable plug at the lowest point of the water trap.

Another type of sink trap increasingly coming into use as a replacement for the lead sink trap is the plastic bottle trap. An excellent trap of this kind is made locally by L.M. Lipshitz of Herzliya and costs IL\$5. It is extremely versatile; being made in one basic size (a smaller, slightly different model is available for the bathroom washbasin). Various fittings can be added e.g. to drain a double sink unit into one drain outlet or an attachment to connect the waste water outlet from a dishwasher or washing machine, or both.

The difference in cost between replacing a worn out lead "S" trap with a new one or changing over to a plastic bottle trap is not very great and certainly repays the outlay by

the ease with which a blocked drain can be cleared. THE OLD LEAD PIPE is removed as follows:

In the centre of the drainhole of the sink there is a large countersunk screw. Unscrew this completely, thus disconnecting the pipe from the

FIX IT YOURSELF MEER FACTOR

sink. Using a 14" pipe wrench, slacken off the large brass nut joining the lead pipe to the 2" galvanized iron pipe leading to the external drain. Take care to keep the lead pipe vertical as a quantity of water remains in the bottom loop of the pipe. Plug the iron pipe with a large wad of newspaper to prevent the bad air from the drain from fouling the kitchen, but take care that the paper cannot get lost in the pipe. With an old knife remove all the putty or other material from the opening in the sink, not forgetting the putty on the underside of the sink opening.

The plastic bottle trap can now be fitted. The stainless steel grille (3) together with the thin plastic washer (4) and countersunk screw (2) are placed inside the sink over the hole. The moulded plastic washer (5) is placed over the wide end of the con-

ical tube (6) taking care that the washer fits properly into the socket for it. The tube is then brought up under the sink and lined up with the upper grille. The large screw is then carefully tightened up, taking care that the lower pipe is vertical and the grille is placed level in the sink. The small threaded ring (7) on the top of the bottle trap body (9) is unscrewed and fitted over the vertical pipe now fixed to the sink. The plastic washer (8) is slid onto the pipe below the ring with the taper pointing downwards. The bottle is now connected to the plastic pipe and tightened one or two turns just to grip the thread. Remove the wad of newspaper from the iron drainpipe. Insert the wide piece of plastic pipe (10) in the iron pipe and work the plastic collar (17) over the end of the iron pipe, thus sealing the joint. The side arm of the bottle (14) is now connected to the drain, using the plastic washer (15) and the threaded ring (6). When you have adjusted the drain trap satisfactorily tighten up all collars by hand.

To open the trap at any time to remove accumulated waste, simply unscrew the large bowl (11).

THE FAMILIAR STORY of young people on the run from the police is given very imaginative treatment by writer-director Floyd Mutrux in *Aloha, Bobby and Rose* (Chen, Tel Aviv). Producer is Egyptian-born Fouad Said, a former American TV cameraman, and this new piece recalls his earlier films "Across 110th Street" and "Hickey and Boggs" — both powerful crime thrillers — in its realism and exceptionally fine location-photography. Los Angeles garage mechanic Bobby (Paul Le Mat, who starred in "American Graffiti") and Rose (Dianne Hull), a young divorcee with a five-year-old son, fall in love on their first date. They get caught up in an accidental fatal shooting at

Capturing the spirit of the times

CINEMA / JACK LEON

an all-night drug store. Although not guilty of the crime, they flee the scene in panic and drive southwards out of the city. The fugitives are befriended by a warm-hearted Texan (Tim McIntire) and his wife (Leigh French), and the foursome cross into Mexico for an evening's entertainment in Tijuana. But Rose, desperate to see her son, insists on returning to Los Angeles with Bobby to face the consequences.

The touching — and often exciting story — of the ill-fated lovers is acted

out against the sometimes colourful, and sometimes scruffy, background of pool halls, drive-in restaurants, motels and drug stores, all brought vividly to life by the masterly camerawork of William Fraker ("Bullitt"). "The Day of the Dolphins". The 34-year-old director, whose two previous pictures have not yet been seen in Israel, cleverly counterpoints the action on the screen with a selection of contemporary music played over the radio in the couple's car. While the

almost-continuous music makes for a noisy soundtrack, it certainly succeeds in capturing the spirit of our times.

Le Mat is convincing as the hero, showing much skill in making the difficult transition from carefree youth to hunted fugitive. However, pretty newcomer Dianne Hull is rather passive as Rose, and only really moves the viewer in the dramatic climax. McIntire gives a striking performance as the hard-drinking Texan, a washed-up football player who proves to be vulnerable beneath his brash exterior. All told, there are a lot of good things in this film, with an added bonus for pop music addicts.

THE FOURTH "Testimonium" Jerusalem Theatre, Feb. 18; Tel Aviv Museum, Feb. 17) presented six new compositions — by two Israeli composers (Edmund Halpern and Leon Shidlowsky) and four non-Israelis (Josep Maria Mestres Quadreny; Yannis Xenakis; Samuel Adler; and our old friend, Roman Haubenstock-Ramati). "Testimonium" was founded in 1966 by Haubenstock-Ramati and Recha Freier. "In order," as the programme notes say, "to give musical expression to historical events and spiritual creations during the two millennia exile of the Jewish people."

WHERE WAS THE MUSIC?

MUSIC / BENJAMIN BAR-AM

Taking a verse from the Book of Job as its motif the fourth "Testimonium" offered a diversity of styles and techniques, emanating from different aesthetic conceptions, from different backgrounds and traditions in order to give expression to the universal aspect of specific Jewish subjects and ideas. In reality, however, it achieved painfully little. Some of the works presented seemed ar-

tificial and completely detached from what was supposed to be their source of inspiration. Others were quite insignificant.

Haubenstock's "Endless," for instance, scored for a small instrumental ensemble, is supposed to give expression to Rabbi Simeon's cosmological apocalypse (from the Zohar), but what Haubenstock produced was just another piece of aleatoric writing, long ago discarded as lacking in excitement or surprise. Neither did Spanish composer Quadreny, in his setting for orchestra and choir of a poem by Yisrael Najara, say anything particularly meaningful or original.

Halpern failed in a different way. Basing his "Testimonium" on the text of a chronicle, recounting the disasters which befell Moroccan Jewry at the beginning of the 17th century, he uses a narrator (Shmuel Aizman) who tells the story with melodramatic pathos; an alto voice (Mira Zakai) singing in dirge-like fashion; a colouristically applied chorus (Rinat) and an orchestra which adds further commentary to the recounted horrors. Though some of the passages are strong and effective, the whole work comes dangerously close to oversimplified programme music. However, as only two movements were performed and even these were disastrously under-rehearsed, one must defer full assessment to a later date.

American-Jewish composer Samuel Adler's "New Song for the Bride," for soprano (Adi Etzion) and an ensemble of instruments, was even greater disappointment. Based on a Jewish Catalan wedding song, Adler's composition uses worn out

gestures and effects which really do not amount to anything.

Only two items contributed something of significance to the fourth "Testimonium": Xenakis' "Neshama" and the film "Golem," produced jointly by composer Shidlowsky and movie directors Aryeh Mambush and Yisrael Najara.

Xenakis' "Neshama" is inspired by the famous story by Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav about the "Emperor's daughter and the king's son." What was of interest was how Xenakis "translated" the story into a new universal "language." This language consists of vowels and syllables, extracted from the text and uttered by two singers (Amelia Savetti and Annie Barcelona) in short, staccato sounds. Four instruments actually "speak" the same language and complement the vocal texture. The whole piece impressed one as strangely abstract, surreal, almost non-human.

As there were practically no explanations in the programme brochure, one could only guess at the extent to which Shidlowsky and the creators of the film "Golem" collaborated but there can be no doubt that the combined visual-aural effect made a very strong impact. There was a haunting beauty in the strange, surrealist, realistically assembled objects and mysterious sound objects, produced by the pronunciation of pairs of Hebrew letters in various magical combinations. All this may not give us any real insight into the world of secret Jewish lore but undoubtedly Mambush, Mayo and Shidlowsky created something very special and beautiful.

Finally, one must unfortunately add the comment that the event was badly organized and most of the performances inadequate and under-rehearsed. It is sad to report that with all the money that must have been spent, music itself seemed to have been almost forgotten.



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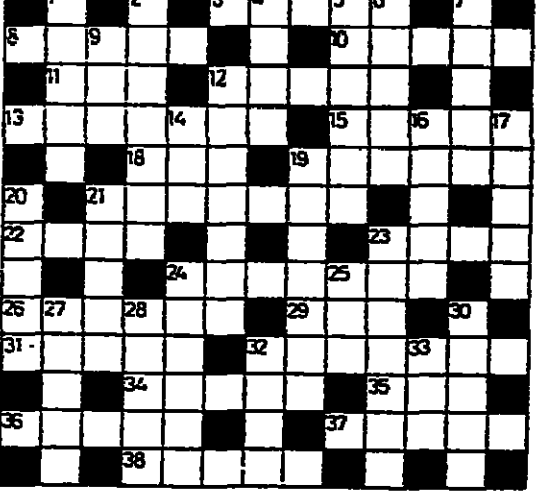
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TWO-IN-ONE CROSSWORD

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CRYPTIC PUZZLE

- ACROSS
- Four week walk (5)
 - Weight of a cart (5)
 - Berry (5)
 - Sound beverage (3)
 - George's way with a girl (5)
 - Decided, maybe, as the last of the rubber (7)
 - Leg stiffener (5)
 - It's heavy only to a point (5)
 - Want to come a fellow indignation (6)
 - Can rest from making runs (7)
 - Die back more for money than love (4)
 - The bitterness of a female of 50 (4)
 - Wife to keep low robes in the dark (7)
 - Motorist's favourite floor-covering (6)
 - Attacker's talk (3)
 - Tries to form ranks (5)
 - The trouble misadventure (7)
 - Intended to reform the media (5)
 - Eggs from the Po valley (3)
 - Has a dramatic match (5)
 - Push a handkerchief (5)
 - Back given to the troops (5)
- DOWN
- Cost in part (5)
 - Like a rat (7)
 - Diaree and cholera (4)
 - Rubs anxiously (6)
 - Or putting balls in (7)
 - From a dresser, maybe (5)
 - Bird, legendary or over 100 (5)
 - It's not that may be delivered (4, 3)
 - Has a lot on (3)
 - City built with many a bent nail (5)



EASY PUZZLE

- ACROSS
- Excursions (5)
 - Hot drink (5)
 - Weapon (5)
 - Monk (5)
 - Generous (7)
 - Bodies of water (5)
 - Light source (3)
 - Gift (5)
 - Purification (7)
 - Obligation (4)
 - Twirl (4)
 - Long (5)
 - Speeches (7)
 - Treatment (5)
 - Small bed (3)
 - Likewise (5)
 - Straw (5)
 - Old hat (5)
 - Boy (5)
 - Straw (5)
 - Refined (5)
 - Throw out lava (5)
- DOWN
- Rational thought (5)
 - Canoe (7)
 - Thaw (5)
 - Riches (5)
 - Small fish (5)
 - Local measures (5)
 - Young animal (5)
 - Ardent devotee (7)
 - Retains (5)
 - Refined (5)
 - Proclamation (5)
 - Denote (5)
 - Neater (5)
 - Female animal (5)
 - Vaults (5)
 - Saltpetre (5)
 - Tire (5)
 - Flag (4)
 - Bedroom sitting (5)

SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S PUZZLES ON WEDNESDAY

POST CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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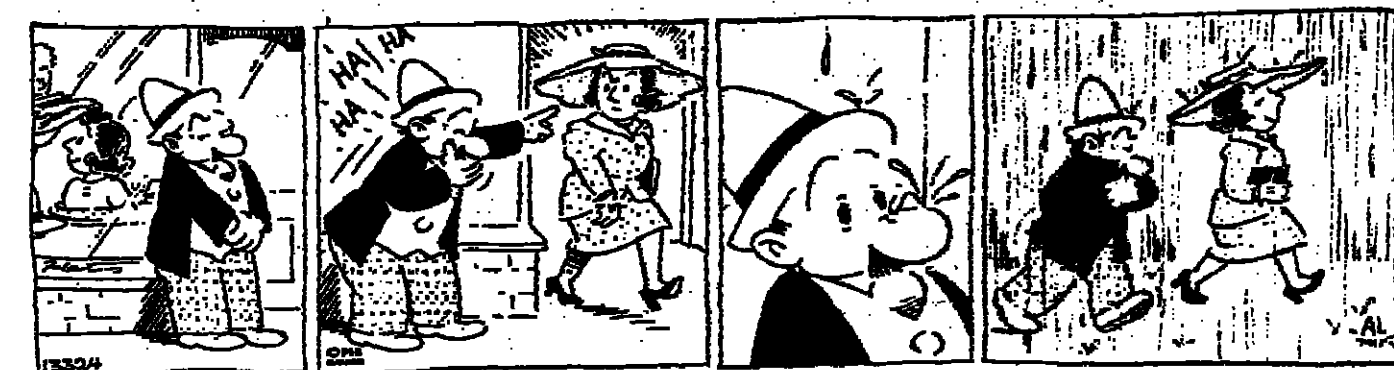
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Register of Contractors — Civil Engineering Works

The Register, corrected to December 31, 1975, has been published, and is available from the Ministry of Defence Publishing Unit, 29 Rehov Bet, Hakiryat, Tel Aviv.

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FREZZANO



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JERUSALEM

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2. Morning half-day tour of all Hadassah projects, 53 per person towards transportation. By reservation only: Tel. 016333.

ISRAELI MUSEUM: Exhibitions: Young and Old — photography exhibition by Brookline; art on shopping bags — IRMA at the Israeli Museum; Herman Selznitz, drawings; Elie Lasker-Schuler, drawings; new acquisitions of Israeli art: Life and Art in Papua New Guinea, the Shipman Collection; Wonderful World of Paper; Painted Greek Vases — An Exercise in Observation; Our Pupils at Night — 1975; Roman mosaic pavement from Nabata, 3rd-4th cent. C.E. (at Rockefeller); Danese, profile of a company.

Visiting hours: Israeli Museum and Rockefeller — Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tues. 9 a.m.-10 p.m.; Israel Museum 4 p.m.-10 p.m.; Rockefeller: Sun., Thur., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Israel Museum and Rockefeller: Fri., Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY, tours in English at 9 and 11 a.m. from Administration Building, Givat Ram Campus, Mount Scopus, Tel. 03-585333, 11.30 a.m. from Truman Building. Further details: Tel. 25430.

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Know-how in solar heating to benefit Greece and Turkey

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel's know-how in the exploitation of the sun's rays is being used to cut fuel oil imports for heating purposes by two Mediterranean neighbours.

Miromit Ltd. of Tel Aviv, Israel's principal developer and producer of solar heating equipment, has announced the completion of an agreement with major heating companies in Greece and Turkey. Miromit is believed to be the world's largest manufacturer in the field.

Several thousand solar heat collectors have already been exported to the Greek and Turkish firms, who will manufacture their own frames for Miromit's patented selective black heat retention panels, and install them in homes and apartment buildings with locally-produced hot water tanks.

Both these companies, it is said, will benefit from continuous Miromit research and development in new sun heating applications. This includes central hot water installations for apartment buildings as well as solar-heating systems for swimming pools, sports halls, agricultural and industrial buildings.

Miromit is already undertaking export and expertise agreements with its own and representative

companies in the U.S., U.K., Scandinavia and Australia. The firm is also negotiating to introduce solar heating into South America.

Miromit bases its advanced solar energy equipment on 20 years of experience in Israel, reportedly the foremost consumer of solar energy for domestic purposes. More than one out of every five Israeli families use this fuel-free method of obtaining hot water in their homes.

The Miromit solar collector consists of a glass-enclosed plate covered with its patented selective black coating which, it is said, insures maximal retention of even the most defused sun radiation into thermal energy. These plates are connected to conventional hot water boilers — 120-200 litre is standard — which are placed below the collector — on the roof, in the attic, or basement of private homes or apartment buildings.

It is reported that the average-size family using solar heating for hot water purposes covers the cost of the installation through savings in utility bills in approximately two years. The introduction of hot water heating by solar energy in Turkey and Greece will result in savings, during the next few years, of tens of millions of barrels of fuel oil now imported for domestic heating purposes.

The work-accident scourge

By YA'ACOV ARDON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Work accidents, like road mishaps, are a worse scourge than Arab terrorism, according to Yitzhak Minnes, northern district superintendent of the Labour Ministry.

Speaking at a day-long meeting on work safety for representatives of workers and management here last week, Minnes reported that 13,000 work accidents occurred in the North last year and 28 people died in such incidents.

"It is inconceivable that shop committees concern themselves with men's wages and other working conditions, but ignore matters affecting their lives," the Labour Council's safety committee chairman Moshe Weissand told the meeting. His committee and the Labour Council secretariat decided that henceforth workers' safety at their places of

employment should no longer be a matter only for the safety committees, but should be made a concern of every shop committee, as the first move in a campaign to combat work accidents. (Safety committees are joint bodies of management and labour representatives, but a survey of the Labour Council last year showed that they are not as a rule very effective and that the majority of plants neglect the enforcement of safety regulations.)

"These accidents are not natural disasters, but are caused by people, usually as the result of negligence," Council secretary Baruch Schoengrass said. "Management and labour together must do something to stop this deadly habit which ruins too many workers and their families. Many men are so keen to step up output in order to earn high premiums, they endanger themselves."

Eilat now high-priority development town

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — This town has been classified as an A-level development town, a title reserved for the roughest settlement conditions, which warrant the greatest government incentives for settlers.

The announcement was contained in a message yesterday from Minister of Commerce and Industry

Haim Bar-Lev to the Eilat mayor. The mayor told an "Eilat" correspondent last week that the new classification would go a long way in helping Eilat out of its present difficulties. The town's already dwindling economy was recently aggravated by the announcement that the nearby Timna mines would be closed because they are no longer profitable.



ZIM

CARGO VESSELS EXPECTED

TO HAIFA & ASHDOD PORTS	
OSTE OLDFEE	24.2
Ashkelon	
ESHEL	25.2
ESTHER	27.2
ROKWARDERSAND	28.2
NORTHGATE	28.2
Haifa	
IGGUND	28.2
Haifa/Ashkelon	
HOPE	29.2
IRIS	29.2
S. DRESHEE	29.2
Haifa/Ashkelon	
MICHAEL	29.2
ZIM NEW YORK	1.3
Haifa	
KESARYA	29.1
Ashkelon	
TO ELAT PORT	
TAMY	27.2
SEA BIRD	1.3

"ZIM" ISRAEL NAVIGATION COMPANY LTD.

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M. DIZENGOFF & Co. Ltd.

Steel lockout ends

ACRI. — The 700 men at the Hertzli's Steel City have went back to work last week, after a week-long lockout set off by the firing of eight men who had refused to work on the Sabbath.

The eight men had been among 28 transferred from the rolling mill, which operates Sunday through Thursday, to the foundry, which is kept going around the clock, seven days a week, and whose employees must take turns working on the Sabbath. When the eight (only one of whom is known to be a Sabbath-observer) refused the transfer, they were fired. The rest of the foundrymen retaliated with a slowdown, and the management then closed down the entire money-losing plant.

Eliel Hamdani's trade-union department yesterday called the firings, which still stand, a dangerous precedent.

FOLK SINGING

CAN YOU? With or without a guitar? Or do you just like listening? Then come to the Celtic Club, 6 Rehov Hertzli, Tel Aviv (opposite Beit Mifal Hapayis and Cinematheque) on Thursday, February 26 and every 2nd Thursday thereafter.

SINGERS EVEN GET FREE BEER!

FOLK SINGING

AMERICAN ISRAEL BANK LTD.

FOREIGN CURRENCY RATES FOR 20.2.76

Official Exchange Rates (transfers and cheques)

	Purchase	Sale
U.S. Dollar	7.2800	7.2862
Swiss Fr.	14.8550	15.0183
French Fr.	8.4501	8.5682
Dutch Fl.	2.87439	2.90285
DM	1.63909	1.65750
DM	2.78146	2.78754
DM	2.87383	2.90208

INTERBANK LONDON SPOT RATES

	20.2.76/44 per £	20.2.76/67 per £
DM	2.0238/44	2.0337/67
Swiss Fr.	2.0350/66	2.0450/89
Belgian Fr.	770 1/2/172	770 1/2/172
Dutch Fl.	39.05/036	39.05/036
Yen	301.90/20	301.90/20
French Fr.	4.4770/80	4.4770/80

Gold price: \$130 1/4 - 131 1/4

FORWARD RATES

	3 Mos.	6 Mos.
U.S.	2.0175/15	2.0050/15
DM	2.8750/40	2.8750/40
Sw. Fr.	2.8750/40	2.8750/40



Some of the participants from 16 Latin American countries are shown a machine shop as part of a course on bus cooperatives at the Centre for Cooperative and Labour Studies for Latin America in Tel Aviv. The 36 participants (who arrived in the country during the recent Eged bus strike) include engineers, economists and lawyers. Avraham Hatzmari, director of the centre, noted that the problems of Latin America are similar to those in Israel and these countries can learn from Israel's experiences. None the less, some local bus passengers may be surprised to learn that Eged officials are teaching such subjects as services to passengers, efficient organization and financial operations.

Singapore's success lies in its urban manpower

SINGAPORE. — Despite the turmoil of the Vietnam war and the oil crisis, the Republic of Singapore has not suffered the disturbances many have feared.

The pragmatic Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew has kept the boat sailing through all the storms. In fact, Singapore looks less struck by the world recession than many of the more developed countries.

Unemployment has not seriously hit Singapore's economy, based like that of Hongkong on a system of self-employed capitalism inherited from the old Chinese settlers of British colonial days.

Singapore's success lies in its highly sophisticated yet individualist urban manpower that has developed through centuries of efforts and accommodation. It has stood strong in the face of global recession. Indeed, this tiny republic of immigrants — mostly Chinese and Indian — had no real alternative.

The small size of Singapore, its scanty resources, and the hostility of a jealous surrounding world made its citizens technologically innovative and gave them great commercial and industrial skill. Commercial skill is Singapore's "second land." Surrounded by sea and hostile nationalistic Malaysians, the island had no outlet for expansion except commerce and technology.

In facing the crises of the recent years, Lee Kuan Yew's greatest success is that the small Singapore businessman — the owner proprietor — did not collapse. Lee sought out new markets in the Middle East, tried to get into the more sophisticated market of Australia, and at home followed the greatest measure of oil austerity.

It had a unique result; Singapore quietly captured a good portion of the Gulf market with its cheap consumer goods like textiles, watches, transistor radios, toys, and scientific equipment. In doing so it was able to earn considerable amounts of foreign exchange to repay the increased cost of oil.

In addition, Singapore's small-scale industries, which constitute around 70 per cent of the republic's production units — are labour-based rather than power-based, and as such they were not badly affected by the oil crisis. Being a small island, Singapore also did not need much fuel for its transport system.

So, Singapore was able to overcome its initial balance of payments problems and keep the economy running. But it was not the booming economy that it had appeared at the beginning of the 1960's.

Despite the fact that during the economic recession Singapore has seen an increased amount of socialization as well as political repression, this pragmatic and largely Chinese republic has not followed the trend of other Southeast Asian countries in forming links with China. The Barisan socialist party, the pro-Communist Singapore organization, remains banned.

Yet, like Hong Kong, Singapore is one of China's almost invisible outlets on the world. Singapore acted as middleman in the trade between China and Bangladesh, and Bangladesh and Pakistan when China and Pakistan had no diplomatic relations with Bangladesh. In doing so, Singapore made big inroads into both the Bangladesh and Pakistan economies. This far-off island, commented one Singapore journalist, was the best beneficiary of the Bangladesh-Pakistan war.

Singapore's importance as a commercial and diplomatic outpost increases daily. With American influence in decline and regional powers beginning to assert their influence, Singapore is playing an important role in the power dynamics of Southeast Asia.

The world has changed ever since the Vietnam war, and Singapore has the determination to adjust itself to the change.

(World Feature Service)

Mizrahi Bank enlarges capital base

TEL AVIV. — In its recently published annual report for the year ending December 31, 1975, the United Mizrahi Bank announced a 45.6 per cent rise in its consolidated balance sheet over the previous year. In spite of the rise in the balance sheet amount the bank's consolidated earnings dropped from IL24.8m. to IL24.8m. the primary reason offered for the drop being a rise in income tax.

During the year covered by the report the bank enlarged its capital base to IL121.8m. This was achieved by way of a rights issue in the amount of IL12m. and two issues of deferred capital notes in the order of IL15m.

The Board of Directors approved a 10 per cent cash dividend on its common and a shares, against eight per cent last year, and 10 per cent bonus shares, as opposed to 25 per cent last year.

Notable among the bank's achievements were the completion of all foreign currency transactions. Moreover, the bank opened a representative office in New York in its effort to broaden its international network.

Plans for 1976 include the opening of two new branches in Jerusalem and one in the northern part of the country.

Industrial and building price indices

Wholesale Price Index of Local Industrial Output		Price Index of Input in Residential Buildings	
Average	1975	Average	1975
1975	157.9	1975	136.9
1974	239.2	1974	275.2
1973	336.7	1973	359.5

Month	1975	Month	1975
January	315.2	January	331.9
February	319.4	February	335.4
March	326.5	March	339.3
April	328.2	April	345.4=100
May	330.1	May	100.1
June	331.1	June	103.3
July	332.3	July	108.6
August	334.2	August	109.3
September	337.3	September	106.2
October	335.0	October	109.3
November	332.0	November	112.3
December	335.9	December	113.3
January 1976	373.8	January 1976	114.6

TEL AVIV STOCKS:

Natad Dollar and bonds still going strong

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Natad investment dollar continued attractive yesterday, with a hefty demand for \$387,000 pushing the price up by 8 agora, to IL4.89. At this price \$198,000 changed hands.

The index-linked bond sector continued to benefit from investor interest. Ten-year bonds were rela-

tively stable with a yield of 2.5 per cent. Absorption Loan bonds continued upwards and gained 4-8 points.

Optional loans less than one year away from redemption backed off by 1/2 point. However, those one to two and a half years away from redemption moved upwards 4-5 points, with the yield falling to about 0.5 per cent. Long-term optional loans tack-

	22.2.76	20.2.76		22.2.76	20.2.76
DOLLAR-LINKED DEBITMENTS			MORTGAGE BANKS		
5% Dead Sea Junior	380	380	Gen. Mortgage	207	207
5% Dead Sea	300.5	292	Carmel Mortg. & Inv.	159	159
5% Electric Corp. B	300.5	292.5	Dev. & Mortg.	250	250
5% Z. L. LINKED (Quoted and interest)			Housing Mortg.	164	164
Absorp. 1955 (1)	485	491.5	Tefatot 8% pref.	209	215.5
Absorp. 1957 (1)	480	474	Tefatot	208	205
Bil. 1959 (41)	240	237.5	SPECIALIZED FINANCIAL		
Bil. 1959 (41)	181.5	177	INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE		
Bil. 1959 6.5% (68)	275	265.5	Lease Dev. 8% pref.	389	32.5
Bil. 1959 6.5% (81)	224.5	217.5	Hazmeh Insurance	255	255
Dev. 4% (61)	173.7	173.5	Sahar - "C"	253	250
OPTIONALS			COMMERCIAL		
Dev. 190	325.5	323	UTILITIES		
Dev. 235	247	243	Motor House	74	74
Dev. 313	222.5	220.5	Delat O	185	185
PURCHASES IN DOLLARS			Gold Storage - IL10	504	205
130	132		Israel Electric Corp. Lightage & Supply	237	237
CONVERTIBLES			LAND, BUILDING, DEVELOPMENT		
10% IDB	107	107	AND CITIES		
7% Leumi (5)	102.5	102.5	Asvita	105	108.5
15% Mizrahi (2)	111	111	Aviv	249	245
10% Tefatot (38)	147	146	Aviv Israel IL10	124.5	124
10% Delat	118.5	118.5	Jer. Land Dev.	130	119
10% Disc. Inv. (72)	90.5	90	Solid Bond - 10% pref.	177	178
10% Leumi Inv. (102)	96.5	97.5	Property & Building	120	119
COMMERCIAL BANKS & SAVING			INDUSTRIAL		
Bank Leumi	187.5	186	Leumi	645	650
Bank Hapoalim	340	340	Elco - 2.5	128.5	124
Bank Leumi	240	240			
Bank Hapoalim	251.5	251			
Bank Leumi	332	332			
Bank Hapoalim	252	252			
Bank Leumi	205.5	205.5			

COIN MARKET NEWS

Gold coin prices drop further

THE PRICES of gold coins continued to drop at a remarkable rate last week.

The drop, by hundreds of pounds, included all the gold coins on the market, except for the Israel Bank proof coin. Especially notable was the decline in the price of the Weissmann gold coin which fell by IL1,000, and the Israel Bank (50) which went down by IL800.

However there was some pick-up in demand towards the end of the week, probably due to the very low prices a few days earlier. Speculators bought, hoping to sell the coins for more this week. Towards the end of the week there was

Year & Name	\$=IL7.38 Quantity	Issue Price IL	Market Price IL	Year & Name	\$=IL7.38 Quantity	Issue Price IL	Market Price IL
1/4 Shekel - Purim Coins	20,000	2.00	320	1969 " (K)	20,000	25.00	250
1961 1/4 Shekel P.	5,000	1.00	200	1970 Mikveh P.	47,504	25.00	130
1962 1/4 Shekel P.	20,000	1.00	200	1970 P.	22,500	50.00	170
1962 1/4 Shekel P.	10,000	2.00	450	16 Pounds - Independence Day Coins	30,000	25.00	200
Found - Hanukkah	150,000	2.00	40	1971 Science (I) P.	17,500	25.00	200
1963 Torah P.	5,000	4.00	670	1971 (J) P.	25,000	25.00	130
1965 Deganah P.	5,000	2.00	180	1972 Aviation P.	500,000	30.00	280
1960 " P.	5,000	4.00	1100	1972 P.	15,000	60.00	450
1960 Soidil P.	15,000	2.00	640	1972 Declaration P.	121,050	40.00	80
1960 " P.	3,000	4.00	6300	1972 P.	41,500	40.00	150
1961 Harp P.	18,916	2.00	850	1974 Ben Yehuda P.	127,300	50.00	60
1961 " P.	9,438	2.00	800	1974 P.	49,700	30.00	130
1962 Italian Lamp.	9,557	2.00	800	1976 Bonds P.	45,200	120	140
1962 " P.	6,040	4.00	1500	1976 P.	39,980	250	280
1963 N. African Lamp	10,000	2.00	1100	16 Pounds - Fidyaa Haben	48,983	25.00	170
1963 " P.	5,500	4.00	1450	1970 P.H. P.	11,300	50.00	300
16 Pounds - Independence Day Coins				1971 " P.	30,201	25.00	160
1963 Menorah	58,051	10.00	150	1971 " P.	12,950	50.00	450
1969 " P.	2,000	18.00	400	1972 " (star) P.	30,000	30.00	120
1969 Exile	10,000	4.00	1100	1972 " (no star) P.	15,000	30.00	80
1969 " P.	4,792	18.00	350	1972 " P.	12,500	60.00	800
1960 Heral	14,723	10.00	870	1973 " P.	101,000	20.00	60
1961 " P.	4,500	20.00	3800	1973 " P.	14,900	60.00	200
1961 Bar-Mitzva	13,541	10.00	1000	1974 " P.	108,850	40.00	80
1961 " P.	4,852	20.00	1000	1974 " P.	44,425	80.00	130
1962 Negav	10,450	10.00	1600	1975 P.H. P.	125	100	100
1962 " P.	28,050	20.00	2070	1975 " P.	75,000	250	250
1962 Seafaring	5,890	10.00	6450	5 Pounds - Hanukkah Coins			
1962 " P.	4,500	20.00	6700	2 Russian Lamp	74,750	20.00	75
1964 Museum	11,000	10.00	1200	1972 " P.	22,400	40.00	160
1964 " P.	4,500	20.00	1380	1973 Babylonian Lamp	94,750	20.00	80
1966 Knesset	22,253	10.00	400	1973 Jerusalem (100) P.	44,925	40.00	80
1966 " P.	7,825	10.00	950	1974 Damascus Lamp	74,375	50.00	45
1966 Life.	36,308	13.50	400	1974 P.	58,900	100.00	90
1966 " P.	10,500	25.00	500	1974 " P.	58,900	100.00	90
1967 Eliat	13,540	10.00	600	1969 Heral (20)	10,510	50.00	6,800
1967 " P.	7,765	25.00	900	1962 Weissmann (50) P.	6,922	150.00	—
16 Pounds - Special Issue				1963 Weissmann (50) P.	6,202	300.00	12,200
1967 Victory P.	234,589	12.50	90	1964 Bank (50) P.	6,014	150.00	12,500
1967 " P.	30,499	30.00	120	1964 Victory (50) P.	1,552	350.00	70,000
1971 Freedom	72,550	30.00	90	1968 Jerusalem (100) P.	9,000	10,000	10,300
1971 " P.	20,000	80.00	200	1968 Shalom (100) P.	12,500	5,000	5,300
1974 Ben-Gurion	100,250	100.00	150	1971 Freedom (100) P.	10,000	420.00	4,400
1974 " P.	94,871	200.00	200	1971 Declaration (20) P.	13,000	420.00	5,200
1968 Jerusalem	50,000	22.50	260	1972 " (100) P.	9,550	450.00	950
1968 " P.	20,501	42.50	340	1973 " (60-100-200)	18,000	1650.00	6,800
1968 Shalom (S.T.)	35,000	20.00	1974 Ben-Gurion P.	47,504	240.00	2,400	2,450
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AFTER BRUSSELS

THE ORIGINAL World Conference on Soviet Jewry, held in Brussels in 1971, was followed almost immediately by a fairly considerable exodus of Jews from the Soviet Union to Israel. The message from the Kremlin now, however, is that the Second Brussels Conference, which closed last Thursday, will not have a similar effect.

This was conveyed by one of the Soviet Government's officially approved Jews, Samuel Ziv, vice-president of the Jurists' Association, who was despatched to the Belgian capital in an effort to neutralize the publicity given there to the plight of Soviet Jews — especially those among them who wish to come to Israel. The Soviet Union, he declared, has no reason to change its Jewish emigration policies.

That statement need not be taken as the last word on the subject from Moscow. For the Kremlin has in recent years shown considerable respect for the opinion in which it is held abroad. In the past several weeks it must certainly have taken notice of the way in which the Western communists have turned on the Soviet brand of communism — and in no small measure because of the mistreatment of Soviet Jews.

Until now, world Jewish leadership, inspired by Israeli advice, has carefully joined firmness and discretion in its relations with the Soviet Government. The motto remains: we are fighting for the freedom of Soviet Jews, not against the Soviet regime as such. Pleas on behalf of Soviet Jews have consistently been based on the rights assured Soviet citizens under their own constitution, or on the international obligations undertaken by the Soviet Government — most recently, in the Helsinki document. And the problem of Soviet Jewry has been deliberately isolated from the issue of Soviet conduct in the Middle East conflict.

The Soviet response to this demonstration of Jewish self-restraint has been a campaign of unbridled anti-Jewish vilification. In the current Kremlin version, Zionism is not merely false — because there is no such thing as a Jewish nation, and it has no historic title to any part of the Land of Israel — but it is a racist Jewish conspiracy to take over the world, including the Soviet Union, and starting with the spread of an empire stretching "from the Nile to the Euphrates."

The Kremlin adopts this anti-Semitic rationale for Soviet policies on the Jews, both internal and external, yet at the same time claims for itself a legitimate role as a promoter of peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

To be acceptable as a mediator, the Soviet Union should be asked, as a minimum, to adopt a non-belligerent stance in relation to the Jewish people and their State. And there can be no simpler, and more effective, way for it to do that than by ceasing to harass, persecute and intimidate Soviet Jews who wish to emigrate to Israel.

READERS' LETTERS

THE MYTH OF DETENTE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — One of the remarkable manifestations of our modern age is the way in which myths, created for political expediency, have been readily believed by student bodies and intellectual circles who have thus helped dictatorial regimes to propagate them. One such myth was the German claim that the Treaty of Versailles was invalid because it was made under duress.

Another myth spread by intellectuals especially in England was that of Stalin's utopian society.

A few years ago, the Arabs invented the myth of the Palestinian State and once again the intellectuals, Jewish and non-Jewish alike, were the first to propagate and popularize this myth.

Not since 1939 has the Free World faced such dire threats. With the Cuban army fighting in Angola, the Americans had a wonderful opportunity to retrieve Cuba and save both countries from Communism. With the PLO army engaged in mortal combat in Lebanon, a historic opportunity was afforded for the annihilation of their armed gangs once and for all, thus relieving Lebanon and Israel from their destructive terrorism. But alas, as in 1938, the heads of the free world are hindered by policy makers bent on appeasement. Under such circumstances who will be willing to trust the U.S. and the democratic countries?

Vietnam, Cambodia, Angola and now Lebanon, all allies of the West, have one after another been deserted for a myth called detente — a myth created, popularized and perpetuated by the most intellectual of them all, Dr. K.

MAURICE A. JAFFE
Jerusalem, February 4.

ZIONIST ACTIVITIES IN BRITAIN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — With reference to your report of January 25, "Fumbling hurts Israel's image," may I point out that the Chairman of the Zionist Federation did not dictate a letter to the Foreign Secretary en route to Heathrow Airport; it was part of an on-going strategy. (In fact, we are now endeavouring to arrange a meeting with the Foreign Secretary to discuss British policy at the Security Council.)

Part of the letter to the Foreign Secretary was taken completely out of context, as the basis of the letter was a request to the British Government not to allow the Security Council to deviate from resolutions 242 and 338.

The suggestion that Mr. Moonman is not able to carry out his duties both as Chairman of the Zionist Federation and as a Member of Parliament is far from the truth. He is doing an excellent job and working as hard and as well as previous chairmen, if not harder.

SIDNEY L. SHIPTON,
General Secretary
The Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland
London, January 29.

POOR TASTE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — There has been a great deal of discussion lately about censorship in our country. But those who claim there must be a free, unhampered press and television in a democracy which wants to safeguard the rights of the individual recognise that those who enjoy this freedom have the responsibility to use good judgment and good taste in their work.

The public execution of Prime Minister Rabin in the recent "Nikol Rosh" programme displayed poor judgment and abominable taste. It was not the execution of the Prime Minister, but a public execution of Nikol Rosh.

ILSE WINTERBERG
Herzliya, February 15.

TRAVEL TAX

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Some newcomers may have been misled by Joseph Morgenstern's financial guide (February 6), as regards travel tax. First of all, the exemption granted to temporary residents is contingent upon the payment being made in foreign currency. Secondly, exemptions are no longer given for business reasons or to approved exporters and, thirdly, the proper address for information concerning travel tax is not the Ministry of Interior, but the Customs House, or any reliable travel agent.

PERRY RODED
Travel Agent
Jerusalem, February 10.

DRUG PROBLEM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — May I suggest the following way to combat the drug traffic: a reward should be offered to any informer for information which leads to the arrest and conviction of any person dealing in drugs. The reward paid to the informer (who should have the privilege of remaining anonymous) can be covered by a fine to be imposed in addition to the sentence meted out by the court. The amount of the reward/fine could be proportional to the quantity of drugs involved. If the rewards are made attractive enough, it would make dealing in drugs a precarious business.

H.G. WORTMAN
Kibbutz Zikim, February 9.

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IN THE FATEFUL global game of international politics, the conflict between the two great powers of the Communist world, China and the Soviet Union, constitutes a factor of prime significance. Its influence is felt in the Far East and in the Balkans. It produces a quasi-balance of power which increases the safety margin of all the countries bordering on the Indian Ocean and the South Pacific. Indirectly, it helps Russia's European satellites to retain a modicum of independence and encourages Western Communist parties to resist over-strict Moscow discipline. Most importantly, it weighs heavily in the hopes of the free democracies to avoid Soviet encroachment on Western Europe without recourse to devastating warfare.

It is in this latter point, so vital to Israel — the only part of the free world in this area now that Lebanon has become a Syrian protectorate — which should be examined more closely.

That the Russo-Chinese conflict offers the free democracies of Europe and North America an added element of strength, is true enough. The immediate threat to their stability and way of life comes from the USSR, not from China. Russia's aspirations to dominate parts of the West or at least to "Finlandize" them, are undoubtedly held in check by the fear that China would seize the opportunity of complications on the USSR's Western borders to satisfy territorial ambitions at the expense of Moscow's vast Asiatic possessions.

It may be taken for granted that the thought of a prior military strike against China, so as to avoid this danger, has been seriously considered in the Kremlin. All evidence indicates that the idea has been rejected, and rightly so. Not that pretexts are lacking; these can be found easily. The idea was rejected because any protracted Far Eastern war — and China is both powerful and steadfast enough to ensure that such a war would be no swift blitzkrieg — is certain to dangerously loosen Moscow's hold over several of her European satellites, whose populations are anyhow chafing under rulers maintained in power by Russian troops.

Moreover, a war against China would presumably increase the tension within the Soviet Union and shake the regime in a manner not dissimilar to that in which Czarist rule was shaken 70 years ago by the Russo-Japanese war. And so, Russia's expansionist ambitions in Europe are curbed because of Chinese hostility.

A CLOSER LOOK at the situation reveals, however, a weakness which may not be ignored. To perceive this weakness, we must analyze the



China's military forces are powerful and steadfast enough to ensure that a Soviet attack would be no blitzkrieg. (Camera Press)

CHINA HOLDS THE KEY TO SOVIET EXPANSIONISM

The Kremlin's leaders may be prepared to make temporary concessions to Peking in order to exploit the crisis of indecision in the West. If China is bought off, the Soviets may be tempted to gain ascendancy over much of Western Europe, writes Benjamin Akzin.

Russo-Chinese conflict from the vantage point of China. Three elements figure in Peking's hostility to Moscow: ideological differences in interpreting Communist doctrine, resulting in competition for primary among Communist regimes and parties; the urge to replace Russia at the head of the Third World in general and of Southeastern Asia in particular; and the wish to retrieve some of the wide territories of Central Asia and Eastern Siberia. Of these three, the last element is the decisive one.

The Maoist interpretation of Communism may fade in time, what with the change of generations in Peking's

ruling clique; and with the rise of Chinese living standards, symptoms of embourgeoisement may appear there just as they have appeared in "revisionist" Russia. The competition for the role of the Third World's "elder brother" is real enough, but its outcome is likely to depend on how well the competitors fare on the other fields of the political chess-board; besides, this competition lends itself easily to a compromise by dividing spheres of influence.

What counts most is Peking's desire to expand north and eastwards, into territories that were

once under China's sway and which are held today by Russia. Such expansion would satisfy both a sense of historical justice and the wish to gain additional spaces for the land-hungry masses of China.

The really realistic rulers in the Kremlin are quite aware of this order of Chinese priorities. They realize therefore that there is an option open to them to buy off China, albeit temporarily, by offering it territorial concessions should the situation warrant it.

Such a situation may arise should symptoms of disintegration continue to spread among important segments of Western society and should Western governments continue to suffer from indecision.

A serious temptation may then arise for Russia to gain ascendancy over large parts of Western Europe, with Austria, Sweden, Holland, France, Italy, Spain and Portugal as the likeliest candidates. There would be no need to sacrifice Soviet territory proper as a price for China's benevolent neutrality.

It would suffice for the purpose to withdraw Russian protection from Outer Mongolia, allowing its gigantic and empty expanses (1,500,000 square kilometres with a density of less than two persons per square kilometre) and its tremendous mineral resources to pass under Chinese hegemony.

In other words, the tactic which Hitler pursued toward Russia at the time of the Ribbentrop-Molotov agreement in 1939 could be repeated by the Soviet Union vis-a-vis China. Such an accretion of power and opportunities would keep the Chinese occupied for quite some time.

As for Russia, exchanging hegemony over Mongolia for hegemony over significant portions of Western Europe might seem a very reasonable bargain. This the more so since the forces of dislodgement in the Soviet empire draw their energy from looking westward: the more the free West weakens, the more remote the danger of inner resistance to the Moscow regime.

THE SCENARIO outlined above is far from a certainty. It is but a possibility, one of many. If it is set out here, this was merely in order to point out that the possibility exists and should be taken in consideration. The rift between Russia and China, however bitter and raucous in its manifestations, must not be counted upon as an immutable feature of the international scene. It is only a variable, and as such, susceptible to change. Awareness of this fact is the best guarantee against allowing the eventual change to threaten the remaining zones of freedom.

(Dr. Akzin is emeritus professor of political science and public law at Jerusalem's Hebrew University.)

Dry Bones



ISRAEL PRESS

'A grave symptom of crisis'

MA'ARIV (Independent) discusses the "crisis" in the Labour Party. "The party secretary-general has resigned and no leading personality is willing to consider taking over. Yet the post of secretary of the ruling party has always been a key position of power. Secondly, when four leading personalities who are not linked with the opposition but are, to varying degrees, close to the Labour Party call for a change of Government (the reference is to Meir Amit, Abner Yaviv, Amos Horev and Yitzhak Ben-Aharon), this is a grave symptom of crisis for both the Government and the Labour Party."

YEDIOT AHARONOT (Independent): "When the Prime Minister called for the convening of the Geneva Conference, Syria's Foreign Minister stated that he refused to participate in the conference, and when he said Israel was willing to negotiate with Jordan, King Hussein's Foreign Minister said they would have no contact with Israel. Both statements hope to extort concessions from Israel merely in exchange for agreeing to negotiate — even before any talks begin. This is due to the weakness of the Government, which has now mobilized to its service persons even more inclined to appeasement than the Cabinet itself."

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